

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

Educating Ulster
Segregated schoolchildren who live under heavier pressures than exams

Baby breakthrough
Medical advances that have given life to children who had no hope

Soviet space
Lord Chalfont insists the USSR can compete in 'star wars' technology

Portfolio

There is £4,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio competition - the daily prize of £2,000 is doubled, because no-one won yesterday. Portfolio list, page 20, how to play, information service, back page.

Israelis fire on student protesters

Israeli border police fired into a crowd of rock-throwing students at Bethlehem University. A campus spokesman said three students were shot in the legs and one in the hand.

The students were protesting against a reported assault on residents of the Dheishia refugee camp, near Bethlehem.

Missing priest's body found

The body of a Dutch Jesuit priest, Father Nicholas Kluijters, who vanished in the Bekaa valley in Lebanon on March 14, was found near a village north of Baalbek. In Beirut the head of the tiny Lebanese Jewish community was kidnapped.

US curbs loom

Both US Houses of Congress, angered by the lack of progress in the worsening trade war with Japan, may pass protectionist legislation this week.



Lords revolt

The Government was defeated by one vote in the Lords over its plans to take powers to disqualify directors whose companies go bankrupt.

Duarte victory

President Duarte's Christian Democrats claimed victory in the elections for the El Salvador National Assembly. They are expected to have won 33 of the 60 seats.

Breaking the ice

A women's hockey World Cup match between Argentina and Wales was the first encounter for British and Argentina sports teams in Argentina since the Falklands war.

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Prof D M MacDowell: Iranian casualties, from the Iraqi Ambassador.

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Key post workers strike and defy High Court ruling

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Eight hundred postal workers yesterday walked out of the country's largest sorting office in a dispute over the use of a new coding machine, ignoring a High Court injunction obtained by the Post Office banning the Union of Communication Workers from organizing industrial action.

The Mount Pleasant sorting office in central London was at a standstill last night, surrounded by a ring of pickets but the unions executive committee which meets today in emergency session, is likely to decide to call a ballot under the provision of last year's Trade Union Act.

Union leaders issued interim instructions to its members at Mount Pleasant not to walk out, pending the outcome of today's executive committee meeting, but it was not clear last night whether that instruction was transmitted to the sorters and postmen in the office at the time.

In the event at 4pm when the management instructed two of the 12 people due to start operating the optical character recognition (OCR) machine, they refused and were suspended. Union officials then organized the walkout by about 1,500 workers, in line with a decision taken earlier in day by the meeting of staff at the office.

The majority in favour of sympathetic action at that meeting was said to be 4-1. It is understood that the Post Office sought the injunction from a judge in chambers when it became clear that there would be a walkout later in the day.

The injunction, granted by Mr Justice Otton, prohibited

any industrial action being organized in the Post Office by the UCW until the union had held a secret ballot of those likely to be involved. It was delivered to the union's offices in south London soon after 2 pm but union officials said last night that it had arrived too late to prevent the walkout.

It is likely that the union executive will today decide to abide by the terms of the injunction and order a return to work until a ballot has been held at Mount Pleasant. There appeared to be no imminent likelihood of the dispute spreading to other London offices. If

Post Office ready 2
Militants target 2
The machine 2

that happened, it could cause a progressive deterioration in mail delivery services.

Mr John Taylor, the UCW national officer for posts, said after the walkout that the management had been building up to the dispute for the past year. He told a mass meeting of the workers in a nearby car park that the union had tried to abide by the terms of the injunction, but it had arrived too late for this to happen.

He later alleged that management at Mount Pleasant had earlier prevented him from talking to the workers about the injunction. The Post Office denied this and said that while Mr Taylor had not asked to speak to the membership, he had held discussions with branch officials inside the sorting office.

Last night the Post Office dropped plans to try to release

the three million pieces of mail trapped in Mount Pleasant, which handles more than 18 million items a week, and instead diverted incoming mail to other London sorting offices.

Union leaders had predicted at the weekend that such a tactic would cause an escalation of the dispute, because workers in other offices refusing to handle the redirected mail would be further walkouts in support of the Mount Pleasant staff.

Mr Alan Tiffin, general secretary of the union, said last night that he would be recommending a return to work and a ballot of the Mount Pleasant staff when the executive met. Failure to call off the action could leave the union open to a claim for damages from the Post Office of up to £250,000 and the possibility of proceedings against it for contempt of court.

The dispute arose after a breakdown of negotiations on an efficiency package put forward by the Post Office. The union argued that a 15-month experimental period using the new OCR machine had come to an end and staff were under no obligation to operate it further. The management argued that because the experiment was at an end, the machine would become part of everyday machinery in the sorting office.

In addition to introducing new technology, another main plank of the Post Office's programme is an increase from 8,500 to 20,000 in the number of part-time workers it employs. That was resisted by a special conference of the union last month.

Cape riot unit fired 'after one stone'

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African police officer who gave the order to open fire which led to the deaths of 19 black men, women and children near Uitenhage in the Eastern Cape on March 21 admitted yesterday that he had done so after only one stone had been thrown.

Appearing in the Uitenhage Magistrate's Court before Mr Justice Kanneviller, who is conducting the inquiry into the incident, Lieutenant John Fouché also said the police had not been attacked with petrol bombs, had not been surrounded by the mob and that the leader of the crowd had not been carrying a brick.

This contradicts crucial parts of the statement made to Parliament about the shooting on the night of March 21 by Mr Louis Le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, who is responsible for the police.

Lieutenant Fouché was unable to offer any explanation for this discrepancy. He had been in a state of great shock after the shooting and had only become aware three days later that Mr Le Grange had mentioned the throwing of petrol bombs.

Under questioning, Lieuten-

ant Fouché also conceded that the decision to confront the crowd of some 3,000 to 4,000 blacks had been dictated solely by his belief that "they were on their way to kill white people" in Uitenhage.

Survivors of the shooting say the crowd was on its way from Lager township to nearby Kwa-nobushle to attend a funeral, unaware that it had been banned the previous evening by the local magistrate. Their route would have taken them through part of Uitenhage.

Lieutenant Fouché said he had deduced the intent of the crowd from the words of a song being sung in Xhosa which a black sergeant in his unit had translated for him.

Yesterday scattered incidents of stone-throwing were reported from Eastern Cape townships after serious violence on Sunday in which one man died and at least 10 were injured.

A spokesman for the South African Defence Force disclosed yesterday that troops are being deployed in support of the police near Kimberley, in the northern Cape as well as in the eastern and south-western Cape.

Beleaguered Nimeiry gets US aid

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Nimeiry of Sudan, whose fragile government is beleaguered by drought, debt, famine and civil war, yesterday succeeded in persuading President Reagan to release \$67 million (\$54 million) economic aid.

The money, with another \$114 million, was held up to force Sudan to take politically unpopular economic measures, most of which have been put into effect since Vice-President George Bush visited Sudan four weeks ago, including a "round table" summit of unions and the board could be held next week.

The chances of such a meeting improved visibly last night when leaders of the pit

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ing the lifting of government subsidies of food, petrol and other commodities.

The remaining funds appropriated for Sudan are being delayed pending completion of negotiations on how it is spent. It is expected to be released imminently.

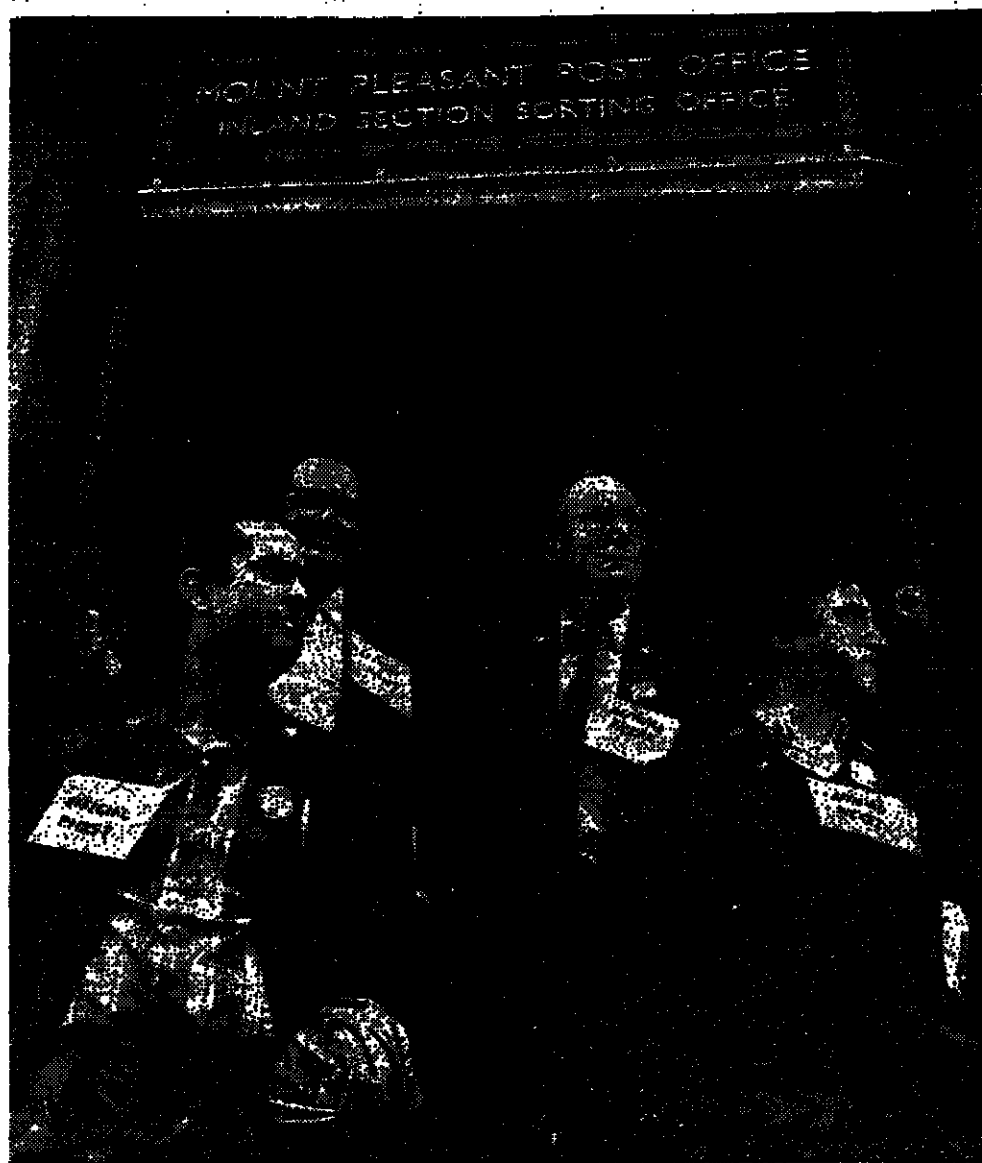
President Nimeiry cited anti-government riots as evidence of his precarious political position. His country also faces continuing hostility from neighbouring Libya and Ethiopia.

As he left Khartoum last Wednesday, a three-day bout of rioting broke out over food price increases. There were 2,600 arrests and hundreds of people were sentenced to lashings.

● **KHARTOUM:** Sudanese security police have arrested more than 20 leading lawyers, doctors, academics and students in an attempt to foil large-scale anti-government demonstrations and a general strike planned for this week (Paul Valley writes).

Among those held are the General Secretary of the Sudanese Advocates' Association, the chairman of doctors at Khartoum teaching hospital and the Professor of Math-

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Postal workers on picket duty at Mount Pleasant (Photograph: Dod Miller).

Walker ready for coal summit after overtime decision

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board is looking towards a resumption of normal relations, including an agreement on pit closures, after miners' leaders end the 17-month pit conflict today by calling off their overtime ban.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy told MPs yesterday that if the National Union of Mineworkers decides to resume participation in the industry's "round table" summit of unions and the board could be held next week.

The chances of such a meeting improved visibly last night when leaders of the pit

on March 6 last year which announced a reduction of four million tonnes of capacity and led directly to the year-long strike.

Mr Walker told the Commons: "It is the objective of the Government and the Coal Board for these modified procedures to come into place as quickly as possible."

His comments prompted the view from the board that if the miners agreed to re-enter the consultation machinery in the wake of calling off the overtime ban, joint talks could begin after the Easter holiday.

In the interim, the board has made clear to the unions that it intends to go ahead with a "reassessment" of collieries as they get back to normal working.

In a letter to the NUM, Nacods and the management union, the British Association of Colliery Management, Mr Merrick Spanton, board member for personnel, says: "We are urgently assessing the problems caused by the strike at individual collieries and other locations."

It is clear that in many areas damage has occurred which will take months to recover. In some circumstances where the cost of recovery cannot be supported by a viable, long-term future, the damage may be judged to be permanent and irreparable."

Mr Spanton writes: "While detailed assessments are being made, the board are taking immediate action to reduce costs by means of voluntary and consequential redundancy. The transfer scheme will also form part of the post-strike strategy."

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Universities attacked in report

University vice-chancellors should become "chief executives" and academic staff be subjected to performance appraisal as part of a new business-orientated approach recommended in a report published yesterday.

The report, based on six studies by management consultants, finds many weaknesses in the way universities are run, but singles out failure to take hard decisions and lack of long-term planning for special criticism.

It was produced by a committee chaired by Sir Alex Jay, chairman of Reed International and chancellor of Birmingham University, who said that the studies had found no evidence of long-term thinking.

If you don't plan, the only answer is drift, and the only answer after that is someone else will tell you how to do it," he added.

The report, commissioned by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals in an attempt to head off a possible government inquiry, recommends a government investigation into the role of the University Grants Committee.

It says the academic staff should have their performance appraised every year.

Leading article, page 15

Hurd plea to America on 'killing fields' of Ulster

Mr Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, last night spoke of the "killing fields" of Ulster in a direct appeal to Americans to stifle the terrorists' supplies of money and arms.

IRA terrorists were far from the champions of a majority "suffering under colonial rule". They were killers, asserting by murder the tyranny of a minority within a minority over

fellows Irishmen, he said in Los Angeles.

Americans who supported IRA terrorism were paying with dollars for the deaths of Irish people, and the destruction of Irish hopes.

"Their killing fields are still the police station, the school bus, the precinct of the Catholic Cathedral. We still have to choke off more effectively their supplies of money, weapons and explosives."

Fresh gallery plan to replace 'carbuncle' design

By Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent

The controversial design for the £18million extension to the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square, described by the Prince of Wales as a "monstrous carbuncle", has been scrapped.

Lord Annan, chairman of the trustees, will announce today that a new scheme will be commissioned with money raised privately.

Alhrends, Burton and Koralek, the architects of the original plan who were chosen after an international competition three years ago, are unlikely to be retained for the new scheme. The developers are Trafalgar House Developments.

The competition-winning entry provided 17 top-lit galleries for 230 early Renaissance paintings, above three

floors of commercial offices totalling 51,000 sq. ft.

The developers were to receive outline planning permission and a 125-year lease on the site from the Government's Property Services Agency in return for building the new extension at no cost to the gallery or country.

The Times disclosed last December that the gallery was examining alternative methods of proceeding with the extension plan and possibly scrapping the latest scheme, which was refused planning permission by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, last September after a public inquiry.

He recommended that a revised scheme should be submitted to the trustees by the



The "carbuncle" design same winning team, but without the proposed tower which had drawn most criticism. The new scheme will probably include offices only for the

gallery's own administrative use and will therefore be a fraction of the size and cost of the last one.

It is unclear what form of compensation has been agreed between the Property Services Agency, which organized the competition and acts as the principal client, and the developers, who have spent more than £1 million in design fees and legal representation for the public inquiry.

One suggestion is that they might have been offered an alternative government-owned site for another purely commercial venture.

It is understood that when the trustees first raised the possibility of abandoning the competition winners and going ahead themselves last December, the agency and the developers set a deadline of one

month for the gallery to raise the necessary funding. That period was obviously extended.

Lord Annan, who retired as chairman of the gallery's trustees in three months, was anxious to rescue something of the extension plan, which was his idea, before handing over to his successor, Mr Jacob Rothschild.

Mr Rothschild is known to have wanted a completely new scheme for the site.

To develop a completely fresh design from a new brief will probably take about two years.

Mr Owen Luder, his former president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, whose controversial remarks in favour of the competition entry by Mr Richards Rogers, sparked off a dispute, said: "The architect's brief must be right next time."

Tougher line on football rowdies

By Michael Horsnell

Tough new legal measures including a ban on alcohol to curb the growing menace of soccer hooliganism were announced by the Government yesterday.

At a meeting in Downing Street with the Prime Minister, at which she described the violence as a disgrace, the football authorities also agreed to a six-point plan of action of their own, including identity cards, better fencing and closed-circuit television.

The moves coincided with a disclosure by the Football League's £3.2 million sponsors, camera suppliers Canon UK Ltd, that they are disturbed by the increasing violence. But the firm, now in the second season of its three-year sponsorship, said it was most upset to say they were thinking of not renewing their sponsorship. Negotiations with the Football League for the 1986-87 season will start this summer.

Giving the football authorities a last chance to put their house in order, the Government

will concentrate on three areas of legislation to combat the problem:

● Legislation along the lines of the successful Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980 banning alcohol in grounds.

● A toughening of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 giving police more powers to control crowds and an extension of it to clubs in the Third and Fourth divisions.

● Legislation on public order following the publication of a White Paper within a few weeks which takes soccer hooliganism into account and which will provide police with more effective powers. A Government review of the Public Order Act 1936 has been completed.

Mrs Thatcher called the meeting after the recent riot at the Luton-Millwall FA Cup match which was followed by an FA report with which she was less than happy.

The Prime Minister told the soccer chiefs that the Government was "horrified" by the extent of football hooliganism both inside and outside grounds and that whatever had been done in the past to curb it was clearly insufficient.

She said: "We must now tackle it in no uncertain way. The Government hopes that soccer clubs will shoulder their responsibility."

The extent to which new legislation might be used to combat hooliganism depended on how successful the football authorities were in so doing.

The Prime Minister gave Mr Bert Millichip, the FA chairman, and Mr Jack Dunnett, president of the Football League, six weeks to come up with a system of club membership.

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TONIGHT
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World Vision, PO Box 123, Northampton.

Minister favours tougher driving tests at speeds of more than 30mph

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, issued a warning yesterday that driving tests could get tougher.

Speaking before a banquet in Coventry to mark the fiftieth anniversary of compulsory testing, she said she favoured testing for night driving skills and testing on dual carriageways at speeds of more than 30 mph. She was against letting learner drivers onto motorways.

But she said: "Drivers should show they can handle a car at speeds of more than 30 mph."

She emphasized that such widening of the driving test would take time but there could be changes soon because of talks with other EEC countries on harmonizing driving tests throughout Europe.

She said that other countries might have to raise the standards of their practical tests to bring them up to the British level because Britain had the best practical tests in Europe.

Britain might have to raise the standard of its theory test to bring it in line with those given in other countries.

She said there did not seem sufficient evidence to support the introduction of regular eyesight and health testing of drivers or the introduction of tests for the elderly, but her

department was still making an investigation.

Mrs Chalker criticized the standard of driving in Britain and said she was so worried about motorway driving that her department was bringing out a campaign leaflet aimed at making an improvement.

She said: "There is some crazy driving about. People do not keep a proper distance from the car in front, they do not signal properly, they do not put their lights on in bad weather."

The banquet was held by the Motor Schools Association to mark its own fiftieth anniversary as well as the anniversary of the driving test and 100 years of car manufacture.

Mrs Chalker also gave a warning to women not to allow their husbands to teach them to drive. That could lead to tensions and there were dangers because there was no dual control.

Driving instructors launched a campaign yesterday for a tougher driving test to cut the death toll in road accidents.

Fifteen people died on the roads, on an average day last year, and 85 per cent of these accidents were due to driver error, according to the Transport and Road Research Laboratory at Crowthorne, Berkshire.

The Driving Instructors Association says that the driving test needs radical changes and it has drawn up a plan which has been sent to Mrs Chalker.

The plan proposes: Compulsory training by professional instructors for all learner drivers; and compulsory training for the instructors.

A two-stage test, in which a theoretical examination of the Highway Code would precede the issuing of a provisional licence.

A longer practical driving test, which would include manoeuvres such as reversing into a confined parking space.

An eyesight test by a qualified optician, and a requirement that disqualified motorists be compelled to retest.

"Many of these proposals were accepted by Parliament in the Road Traffic (Driving Instruction) Act 1984, but have never been implemented," Mr Graham Fryer, chief executive of the association, said.

"Every time there is a major motorway pile-up investigations probe into faulty lighting or warning signs, but 85 per cent of the time accidents are caused purely by driver error," he said.



Jockeys' challenge: British women jockeys lining up yesterday for the announcement of a two-race challenge against an American women's team at York on June 14. From left: Elaine Mellor, Maxine Juster, Jennie Goulding, Yvonne Hayes, Geraldine Rees (captain), and Lay Arber (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Two sites only for Severn crossing

By Tim Jones

Only two areas will be considered for a second crossing of the Severn if the Government decides one is necessary, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, told the Commons yesterday that a bridge or a tunnel would be built between the existing bridge and the Dun Sands or across the English Stones, further downstream.

Mr Ridley said that he agreed with the consultants who published the first phase of a £2.2 million feasibility study yesterday that a third crossing just north of Avonmouth would be too expensive.

He also said he would not consider possible crossings south of Avonmouth or north of the existing bridge.

The feasibility study was

started last year after the Government had announced a £3 million emergency repair programme when a report gave warnings that under very exceptional circumstances the bridge could fall down.

Speaking yesterday at the Severn Bridge offices, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said it was possible that the crossing could be considered as part of an electricity generating barrage.

Last week, Mr David Hunt, Minister for Renewable Energy Resources, said a further £220,000 study of the barrage proposal would consider a site in the English Stone area.

Mrs Chalker said it would be at least the end of the next decade before the existing bridge approached its capacity of 50,000 vehicles a day.

Farmer claims win over cow treatment

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A dispute between a Somerset farmer and the Ministry of Agriculture over the protection of his cows against warble fly infection ended in the High Court yesterday with both sides claiming victory.

Mr Mark Purdey, aged 31, of Dene Farm, Halse, near Taunton, had refused to allow ministry veterinary officers to treat his Jersey herd with organophosphorous compounds on the grounds that they made the milk unfit for human consumption.

In an out-of-court settlement yesterday the ministry agreed to allow Mr Purdey to use an antibiotic pesticide called Ivo-mectin. For his part he undertook to carry out the treatment within seven days and not allow

milk from the treated cows to be sold within 28 days.

Mr Purdey, who has been supported by environmental groups including Friends of the Earth, said the agreement would cost him about £500 but that he regarded it as a victory for principle.

Mr Chris Rose, of Friends of the Earth, described the agreement as "a small victory for organic farmers and a defeat for the pesticides industry."

But the ministry called the victory claim "nonsense", pointing out that Ivo-mectin was an approved product and that Mr Purdey could have used it in the first place.

Its disadvantage was that it required a 28-day period after inoculation before the milk could be sold.

Doctors on deception charges

Four doctors from West Yorkshire were sent for trial at the Crown Court when they appeared before Huddersfield magistrates yesterday accused of defrauding the local family practitioner committee of nearly £2,000.

The case against a fifth doctor who did not appear was adjourned for two weeks. They were accused of obtaining payment or attempting to obtain payment by deception, by making false claims for post-natal visits and examination in 1983 and 1984 which they had never made.

The four who were sent for trial were Michael Herbert Mercer, aged 57, of Croft House, Huddersfield; Road, Meltham, Huddersfield; Akhtar Munir Malik, aged 48, of The Ghyll, Fixby, Huddersfield; Tariq Mahmood Farooqi, aged 46, of Headfield Road, Dewsbury; and Saral Kumar Bagchi, aged 61, of Hemes Lane, Staincross, near Barnsley.

Dr Mercer faced 10 charges of obtaining a total of £548.95 by deception; Dr Malik eight charges of obtaining £484.20 and four of attempting to obtain £225; Dr Farooqi faced seven charges of obtaining £266.45 and two of attempting to obtain £77.60 and Dr Bagchi seven charges of obtaining £457.40 and two of attempting to obtain £135.70.

The fifth defendant, Souindra Nath Mukherjee, aged 52, of Lightbridge Road, Fixby, Huddersfield, was due to appear on six charges of obtaining by deception and three of attempting to obtain.

Man missed death blast by minutes

A gas service engineer escaped death by minutes when he was called to deal with a leak at a block of flats on Puncney Hill, south London, an inquest was told yesterday.

An explosion at the flats, Newnham House on the Manor Fields estate, early on January 10, killed eight people.

The inquest, before a jury at Westminster Coroner's Court, was also told by an inspector in the Health and Safety Executive that it was extremely unlikely the source of the explosion would ever be found.

Miss Elizabeth Gyngell, a principal inspector who investigated the explosion, said: "There are many sources of ignition, electrical equipment, flames from gas burners, even switching on electric lights."

It was most likely that the gas had come into flat 7 and been contained in that flat. It was "pure chance" that it got there.

Miss Gyngell said that the crack discovered in the mains had happened before the explosion, and was not caused by it.

She was satisfied that the escape of gas and subsequent explosion was not due to defects in gas appliances.

Mr John Cockle, of Wimbledon, south London, a service engineer with the South Eastern Gas Board, said that he was in bed when he received a call at 7.05 am telling him of the suspected leak.

It took him 15 minutes to reach the flats a mile away, but by that time the explosion had already occurred. "I can only

have been a few minutes late", he said.

During the hearing yesterday, Dr Paul Knapman, the coroner, heard the transcript of a telephone conversation from Mrs Anne Ashcroft, a resident in the flats, and the Segas control centre at Croydon.

In the conversation, which took place at 7.02 am, Mrs Ashcroft said that she could smell gas in the corridor outside her flat and the smell was filling the flat. She was not told to evacuate her home, but to ventilate it as much as possible.

Mrs Ashcroft, a musician, who lived at 12, Newnham House with her husband, Michael, and daughter, aged three, said yesterday that new gas central heating boilers had been installed during 1982 and 1983. Since then she had to make two calls to the gas board, and a third call about a gas fire in the sitting room.

The last time she had been in touch with the board before January's tragedy was in November last year.

The eight who died in the explosion were Mrs Phyllis Emberson, aged 77, her husband Maurice, aged 74, of 11 Newnham House; Mrs Sandra Weeks, aged 85, of 6 Newnham House; Mr Panayotis Mitropoulos, aged 39, of 2 Newnham House; Mrs Elsie Kellerman, aged 65, of 4 Newnham House; Mrs Janet Wilkes, aged 70, and her husband Norman, aged 68, of 7 Newnham House; and Miss Karen Krijci, aged 30, of 9 Newnham House.

The inquest continues today.

Milk imports bar challenged

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Britain's refusal to accept imports of fresh milk from other EEC countries on grounds of a possible risk to human health is to be tested in the European Court.

The European Commission in Brussels agreed yesterday to act on complaints by other countries that the ban is illegal.

Its decision came as no surprise to the Government or the dairy industry. Britain has been "in the dock" more than once recently, notably over its

refusal to allow imports of UHT (long life) milk and of poultry, also for what were claimed to be health reasons.

In both cases the verdict went against Britain, but there was no flood of imports. This has cast some doubt on claims by French, Irish and Dutch producers that they are ready to supply fresh milk to English shops and supermarkets within 24 hours of milking, at prices below those of domestic producers.

The British dairy industry

certainly purports to be alarmed by the steady erosion of the doorstep delivery system. Sales of milk in shops and supermarkets now represent about 16 per cent of the total, while overall consumption has been falling by about 2 per cent a year. The industry fears that if doorstep deliveries cease consumption would fall further.

The Ministry of Agriculture insists that the ban on imports is not a protectionist measure and pleads that there are no standard community laws on dairy hygiene.

Many favour euthanasia, survey says

Seventy-two per cent of people who participated in an opinion poll believed that euthanasia should be legalized. The figure represented a 3 per cent increase on a similar poll taken nine years ago, the Voluntary Euthanasia Society said yesterday.

The survey, by National Opinion Polls, showed that 34 per cent agreed "strongly" that the law should allow adults to receive medical help "to achieve an immediate peaceful death", if they suffered from an intolerable, irremediable physical illness. The poll should request such help in writing.

The biggest change since the 1976 poll was the fall in "don't know's", from 14 to 8 per cent. Regionally, Wales and the West recorded the highest number in favour of voluntary euthanasia, 77 per cent. The lowest was 64 per cent in Scotland.

Bail curfew

Ten men, including seven miners, appeared in court at Chesterfield yesterday accused of causing more than £1,000 of damage to property in the North Derbyshire pit village of Shirebrook at the weekend and were remanded until April 29.

Women 'still treated as legally inferior'

British women are still legally inferior in relation to taxation, retirement and pension rights and in some aspects of social security and employment, a United Nations conference will be told in Nairobi in July.

The conclusions are contained in 12 reports, to be presented to the final conference of the United Nations Decade of Women, part of a world-wide census on the status of women.

Lady Young, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who will head the British delegation, told a press conference yesterday that the main problem in Britain was "the gulf that still exists between paper rights and actual rights". The need for a change in attitudes would be

Britain's main theme at Nairobi.

Despite laws against sexual discrimination at work there has been little progress for women in the field of employment, the British delegation will report. Although many wives are the breadwinners, and although women head one in seven families, they are still regarded as working only for pocket money or out of boredom. Working conditions were still geared to the male "norm".

Literature, the media and advertisements continue to rely on sexual innuendo and the degradation of women, and violence was often portrayed as enjoyable and a route to success, one of the reports says.

Call to bar 'racist' head

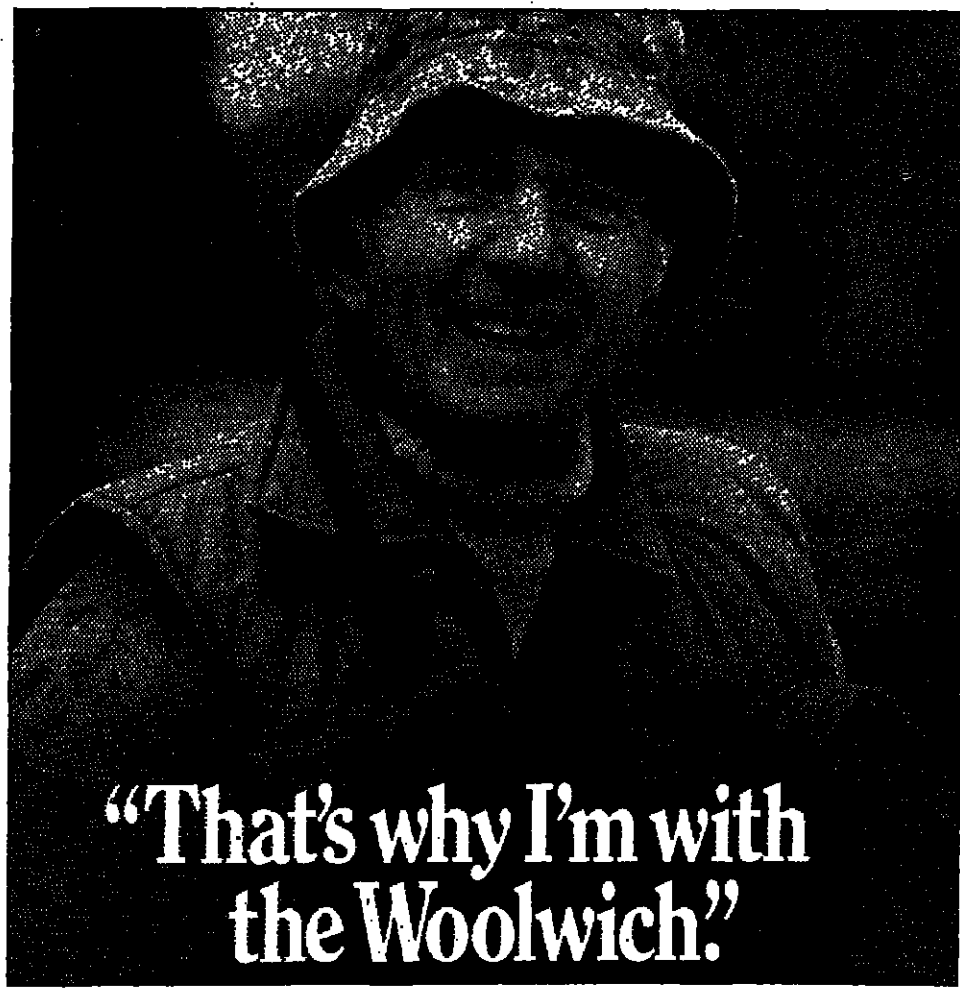
An investigation was launched yesterday into an attempt to bar the Bradford headmaster who is at the centre of disputes about race, from a course in "racial awareness".

Seven race training officers with Bradford Council have circulated a memorandum saying they believed they could not allow Mr Ray Honeyford on the

five-day course, "given the racist views he has expressed".

Mr Honeyford, aged 51, is the headmaster of Drummond Middle School, Bradford, where 90 per cent of the pupils are of Asian origin. A vote of no confidence has been passed in him by an education subcommittee and this week education officials are expected to decide on his future.

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Revised pit reviews wanted quickly

COAL INDUSTRY

It was certainly the objective of the Government and the National Coal Board that the modified colliery review procedure should come into effect as soon as possible, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, declared in the Commons at question time.

He explained that if following the delegate conference tomorrow (Tuesday) the National Union of Mineworkers decided to resume involvement in the normal consultative procedures between the board and the unions, the NCB would be suggesting that the modified colliery review procedure be put into effect as soon as possible.

He was replying to Mr Hugh Dyer (Harrow, East, C) who said there was no reason for any industrial action now that the NCB had clarified misunderstandings by Nacods, the pit deputies union, of the short-term procedural adjustments.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, wanted a categorical answer, commenting that the picture was not clear. Would the ten pit forecasts for closure in South Wales go through the procedure? Was the agreement still sacrosanct?

"Yes, certainly," replied Mr Walker. When the NCB put their proposals to the TUC they made clear that in addition, failure to agree to these procedures by June 1 would mean that the modified procedures as existed now would have to continue. As for Bedwas, if as a result of its continuing assessment the board judged the pit must stay, closure procedures and agreements on closures would be fully honoured.

Mr Walker said he understood from the NCB that the return to normal working in the industry was well under way. Production and deliveries of coal had been substantially increased.

Mr Michael Foot (Blakenau, Gwent, Lab.) has been asked to report in today's *Guardian* - "Local manage-

ment 'instructed to give union a hard time' and 'NCB launches closures drive against Nacods'?" If these reports are one tenth true, are they not appalling?

Can he not do something about the chairman of the board? He is not fit to be in charge of industrial relations. He boasted that he did not have any consultations with the Secretary of State, but can Mr Walker not stop this madness going on?

Mr Walker: I did have a meeting this Monday morning on other matters with Mr Ian MacGregor, NCB chairman who has no knowledge whatsoever of the items mentioned in *The Guardian* or the source from which it came. It may be that there are those involved in stirring mischief around the subject. The chairman is anxious to see the modified review procedures agreed with Nacods come into effect as quickly as possible.

Mr Peter Hardy (Wentworth, Lab.): I spoke to the general secretary of Nacods a little while ago and the situation is very grave. Will he not merely rely on the comments made by the NCB but have a further meeting with Nacods? I am not particularly interested in seeing a strike in the collieries. We have seen enough of it.

Mr Walker: I have always been willing to see any trade union and that applies to Nacods and the NUM.

Regarding the pit closure in South Wales, two weeks ago the South Wales area director met the unions to discuss the prospects for the pit concerned. The unions called for a meeting with the NCB but that has not yet taken place. In the light of that the board expressed the view that there were no prospects for the pit.

The NUM's response was that the board should be dealt with quickly and voluntary redundancies initiated immediately since this would benefit the miners concerned and a majority of NUM members at the pit voted in support of this.

If the NCB had not taken and taken no notice of it, we would have been under strong criticism from the NUM.

Mr Patrick Nicholson (Teignbridge, C): There were reports in the *Daily Mail* last week suggesting these

miners who applied for transfers to go to areas where they would not be victimised were being processed at a very slow rate.

Will this be looked at and will those who have to move to other areas have their cases dealt with speedily?

Mr Walker: The NCB is looking into all individual cases. It has set up a free phone system and is looking into every possible case. If any form of intimidation is taking place, the important thing is to stop the intimidation. The NCB is taking a great deal of action. It has set up a special unit to do so.

Mr Ronald Davies (Caerphilly, Lab.): When the pit closure was taking place at the Bedwas colliery in its constituency, the pit manager was interviewed by members of the NUM at the pit head and offers of redundancy or transfer were made before any firm decisions or discussions had taken place.

The NCB's action in South Wales are regarded as being particularly precipitate and provocative. Will he now undertake that the revised or the existing review procedure will take place with Nacods before there are any further closures?

Mr Walker: In *The Guardian* today the president of the NUM in South Wales made clear the NUM was in favour of the closure taking place there and would not support any that taking place elsewhere.

In the case of Bedwas, a considerable majority of the miners recognised the prospects were poor for that pit. By agreement between the NUM and the board, transfers to other pits and voluntary redundancies are already being arranged.

This seems much more acceptable than simply laying men off because there is no work for them to do and, by its nature, this is an interim arrangement and, as a result of its continuing assessment, the board will be able to decide whether to close the pit and remain closed the procedures and agreements which relate to closures will be fully honoured.

Mr Stanley Orme asked if the Nacods agreement meant there would not be any more closures

Hardy: situation is grave

before the modified review procedure was in place.

Mr Walker said they would not agree to the NUM having a veto on future pit closures if the union refused to honour the Nacods procedure in detail. The proposal to the TUC was still the basis.

Next week (he said) we shall get down to discussing the detail of that agreement.

On pit closures between then and now, the only two closures involved are those where there is no possibility of any men at the pit working. The coalfields have been destroyed by the strike. If Mr Orme would like to disagree with the NUM and say he is against those men being given voluntary redundancy and would prefer them to be laid off, let him say so.

Mr Orme said that before a new energy policy was considered, the present situation had to be clarified. Mr Walker had not answered the question on the modified review procedure. Mr McVie's of Nacods had said that the present procedure was not being carried out. When would the Government carry it out?

Mr Walker: I repeat that the coal board was not asked to consider the present situation but to consider the question on the modified review procedure. Mr McVie's of Nacods had said that the present procedure was not being carried out. When would the Government carry it out?

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Peer seeks end of VAT on sale of pictures

TAXATION

The possibility of the National Gallery being zero rated for VAT in its purchase of works of art in the same way as non-national institutions and foreign buyers were, was discussed by the Earl of Gower, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Arts, during a question time in the House of Lords.

Lord Strabolgh (Lab.) had asked what price had been paid by the National Gallery for the recent purchase of a painting by Joseph Wright of Derby.

The Earl of Gower: The price paid at public auction for the painting *Mr and Mrs Thomas Colman about to set out on a ride* by Joseph Wright was £1,419,600 including auction premium and VAT. The painting was bought on behalf of the trustees of the National Gallery. It is for the trustees to decide what to do with the collection and how much to pay.

The Earl of Radnor (C): Would it not be for the National Gallery to concentrate on exhibiting pictures?

Lord Strabolgh: This was a major British painting, perhaps the best by Joseph Wright. I have, very reluctantly, reduced the National Gallery's purchasing grant this year to £1.4 million. It is a very difficult position to be in.

In regard to the price paid for this painting, it has to be compared with that of the price paid for the Turner owned by the late Lord Clark which went for £7 million at auction.

The Earl of Gower: I endorse what he said about the record of the National Gallery in displaying its marvellous national pictures. It is important for the House and people generally to realise we are in the area of £5 million to £7 million being a complete price for old master paintings.

Mr Donald Dixon (Harrow, Lab.) said it was the duty of the Government to keep a quorum during the committee stage of a controversial and major Bill but it had failed to do so on nine occasions with this measure.

Mr Jeremy Hayes (Harrow, C) said this was a radical and liberating Bill. He would be only too delighted to speak to the people coming to lobby Parliament tomorrow (Tuesday).

Mr Dennis Canavan (Fairford, West, Lab.) said this guillotine was outrageous because it was an attempt to stifle parliamentary debate on one of the potentially most destructive pieces of legislation which had been introduced in Parliament. The motivation behind this guillotine was sheer doctrinaire hatred of public ownership and public enterprise.

Because the Government could not defend the indefensible they intended to cut democratic debate to the minimum and bulldoze this legislation through.

This proved that the Government had more in common with the jackboot dictators of fascism than genuine parliamentary democracy.

Mr Colin Shepherd (Hereford, C) said the success of the trial in Hereford showed that people in country areas should lobby the minimum number of days at elections to show they were committed to transport in the rural areas.

It was possible under deregulation to continue to reverse the trend of decline in public transport. People living in rural areas would achieve a better standard of transport than if they let the present decline continue at enormous cost.

Mr Richard Caborn (Sheffield, C) said the Bill was a disgrace and conceived and the massive opposition to it was right across the spectrum.

The motion was carried by 277 votes to 189 - Government majority 88.

Government defeat on courts' right to disqualify directors

INSOLVENCY

The Government was defeated by one vote in the House of Lords during the report stage of the Insolvency Bill, when a joint conservative and cross bench amendment protecting directors in company liquidations was carried by 85 votes to 84.

Lord Bessborough (Ind) proposed the amendment which said that in making a disqualification order against a director, a court should take into consideration whether in the two years preceding the winding up the director knew, or ought to have known, there was no reasonable prospect of avoiding insolvent liquidation.

His amendment also proposed that the court should also consider whether the director failed to ensure that management accounts or financial statements, at regular intervals appropriate to the business, which revealed the state of the company's trading operations and financial position, were presented to the directors.

Lord Mottistone (C) supporting the amendment, said the Government had totally failed to pick up the point that in the last resort the Bill should ensure the best action possible was taken to safeguard the creditors.

That could only come about when a company was in difficulties if the company directors did their best to try to save it and if that failed, which revealed that he was not a director for somebody else coming in to help.

It would not be in the interest of the creditors for the directors to take

the line of least resistance because they were frightened of the prospects. The new proposals made clear that awareness of the financial behaviour of a company was crucial to its success or otherwise and to the question of whether the director in question was unfit or not.

Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, said he would be happy with guidelines which would give guidance to the directors of companies and those dealing with them as well as to the judges when they came to consider disqualification of directors. That would be sufficient to deal with the problem and it would be unwise to tie matters up more closely. The guidelines would be agreed by all interested bodies.

Lord Lucas of Chilworth, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said the Government was satisfied that the position was already covered and there would be no discouragement to experts coming in to companies in difficulty to try to save them.

If the Bill were to be amended as proposed, he said, it would mean that however irresponsible a director's conduct had been, even if it had caused enormous losses to creditors, a court would be unable to disqualify him provided he could show he had taken steps to minimize potential losses to the company's creditors and that he had ensured management accounts were presented to the directors.

The Government was concerned with a director's basic fitness to be a director and if he was unfit he should be disqualified.

The Government was having discussions with regard to directors' guidelines.

Tory recalls days of shooting and hunting

FACILITIES

The lack of resources for MPs was making Parliament into a laughing-stock, Mr Alfred Dubs (Battersea, Lab.) said during a question to Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House about the workload of members. However, Mr Biffen did not agree with that view.

Mr Dubs said the workload of the average MP had increased enormously in recent years. The resources we have, namely one secretary and 0.2 of a research assistant are the (he went on) woefully inadequate. We are the laughing-stock of the House about the workload of MPs. This was a serious issue.

Mr Biffen said no words of his should ever be interpreted as suggesting he was in favour of MPs enjoying hunting and shooting. Mr Dubs' point was something they kept under review.

Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Littleborough and Salford, C) commented amid laughter that it was common knowledge that no one worked harder than he did for his constituents. There was no shortage of people wishing to be MPs and no shortage of MPs canvassing for votes at election time.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): The workload of MPs was less in the old days at the time of England's greatness. In those days there was no autumn session, partly due to the bad state of the roads and partly to the fact that there was no shooting and hunting, (laughter).

Mr Biffen: It may have been related to the necessity for members to get some shooting, but if he undertakes even closer research he will find that rarely did Parliament rise in time for the 12th. (Laughter)

Mr Biffen said he had no desire to put the argument in the somewhat crude and amusing terms that Mr Dickens had.

Debate sought on dispute

POST OFFICE

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) turned down a request for an emergency debate on the possible disruption of postal services after the collapse of talks about new working methods.

Mr John Rysan (Blyth, Valley, Lab.) who called for the debate, argued that within a few hours there could be a total collapse of postal services after the collapse of talks about new working methods.

Sir Ronald Dearing, chairman of the Post Office, in a high-handed and autocratic manner (he added) made it clear that he intended without consultation to introduce a new method of counting process letters. No question of fact arose for determination in the case.

The appellant had been granted exclusive possession of the house on terms fully set out in the offer of tenancy. The appellant's acceptance of that offer, and the 'conditions of tenancy', unambiguously documents. 'There was no ground for any finding that the nature of the occupancy of the house by the appellant was as licensee and not tenant.'

Lord Scarman, Lord Keith, Lord Brightman and Lord Templeman agreed.

Solicitors: Radcliffe & Co, Sharpe Pritchard & Co for Mr R. W. Read, Eastleigh.

In the Court of Appeal Lord

Justice Griffiths had said that the judge "was entitled to look at this arrangement with the eyes of common sense and to conclude as he did that a council giving emergency shelter... was not intending to create a tenancy" and Lord Justice Stephen Brown had said that it was essentially a question of fact. No question of fact arose for determination in the case.

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In the Court of Appeal Lord

Specialist recruits not being attracted

CIVIL SERVICE

It would be much more difficult for the Civil Service to obtain the lawyers, accountants, economists, and statisticians who were needed to cope with the increasingly complex level of morale. Dr Kenneth McDonald, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said during Commons questions. He attributed the decline in morale to low pay and an autocratic style of management, coupled with the attack on civil servants' trade union rights.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister for the Civil Service, replied that her exaggerated language was unjustified. I would agree (he went on) that there are certain specialist recruits that we do have some difficulty in attracting. But equally it is important that the Civil Service should not be seen to be taking more than its fair share of the bright young talent available to the country as a whole.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield North, C) began the exchanges by asking if Mr Hayhoe intended to take any action in the light of the number of principals and assistant secretaries who have left the Civil Service in the past two years.

Mr Hayhoe: The number of assistant secretaries who have resigned has remained roughly constant over the last five years. The number of principals who have resigned has increased slightly. Those resigning represent a very small proportion of the overall numbers employed in these grades. Resignations are being carefully monitored, but no special action is considered necessary at present.

Mr Eggar: The trend could become very worrying, but will he use this information as further ammunition to press for a review of the introduction of merit pay in the Civil Service?

Mr Hayhoe said the experiment being conducted with merit pay might well be helpful.

Mr Alan Williams (Swansea West, Lab.): There has been a marked fall-off in the quantity and quality of graduates applying for posts in the Civil Service. Is not this reduction a consequence of the continuing public campaign of contempt in which the Prime Minister is subjecting civil servants?

Mr Hayhoe: Neither the first nor the second part of the question is correct.

Energy saving campaign in 1986

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, announced during Commons questions that he had decided to make 1986 an Energy Efficiency Year in which he hoped the Government, major energy utilities and industry would combine together to make a further considerable impact towards obtaining far higher standards of energy efficiency in Britain.

In a reply to three Conservative MPs, he said he was delighted at the progress that had been made during this past year. More than 4,000 senior executives had attended early morning briefing sessions. There had been a 50 per cent increase in extended survey scheme applications and a 300 per cent increase in voluntary insulation projects for new income households.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Chipping Barnet, C) could he confirm that we are talking about the possibility of saving thousands of millions of pounds in the more effective use of energy? For example, in offices and shops it is possible to save £500 million worth of energy?

Mr Walker: Yes. At the moment we have an energy bill total, something like £35 billion. There is no doubt if we were operating the best standards like in other countries there could be a saving of something like £7 billion a year. Therefore it is an enormous area of potential improvement.

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Farming survey on conservation may influence grant decisions

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Ministry of Agriculture is conducting a survey of trees, hedges and ponds on farms, and farmers' attitudes to conservation, marking a further step in the ministry's conversion to environmentally sympathetic policies. The results of the survey are likely to have a strong influence on how grants are allocated.

Questionnaires are being sent to 6,500 farmers in England and 1,300 in Wales asking such questions as how much woodland they have on their farms, whether they are broadleaf or coniferous, how many trees they have planted in the past year and in previous years and whether they regard them as useful for shelter, for sporting purposes, for wildlife conservation and for landscape.

There are also questions on the total length of hedges, average field size and the amount of hedge planting and removal in the past five years. Farmers are asked how many ponds they have and whether they see them as valuable for practical purposes such as

irrigation as well as wildlife.

Farmers are also asked about their own interests and achievements in conservation and amenity work, their knowledge of wildlife habitats, and any special features of their farms, such as streams and stone walls.

Lord Belstead, Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, said yesterday that the questionnaire had been drawn up after consultation with organisations including the National Farmers' Union, the Country Landowners' Association, the Countryside Commission, the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

He hoped that, as well as their value to the ministry in formulating policy, the results of the survey would be of public interest.

There might even be some pleasant surprises. Many people seeing the devastation caused by Dutch elm disease did not realize the enormous number of new trees being planted.

MPs urged to oppose curbs on lodgings

MPs of all parties have been urged by Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, to oppose new board and lodgings regulations due to be debated in the House of Commons today. (Our Property Correspondent writes.)

In a letter to MPs, Shelter says that as many as 50,000 young people could be forced to sleep rough because of the Government's plans to restrict benefit claims by those aged less than 26. Mr Roger Matthews, of Shelter said, "The Government is issuing notice to quit to thousands of people currently forced to live in board and lodging accommodation for lack of an alternative."

He said that the Prime Minister's advice last week to unemployed youngsters from Merseyside to "look around for lodgings", as she did when young, contrasted strongly with the Government's plans to prevent young people living in such accommodation while looking for work.

Shelter says that the fundamental difficulty is the lack of suitable alternative accommodation, a view supported by the report of the Social Security Advisory Committee on the proposed changes, which says the long-term solution is in housing policy.



St Alban's, the tower with a terrace.

Wren tower converted to offices

Offers are being sought for London's latest and most unusual office block: St Alban's Tower, designed by Sir Christopher Wren and built between 1682 and 1697.

The 92ft tower, near Guildhall in the city, has been derelict since the church of which it formed part was bombed during the blitz.

Mr Frederick Burn, of the architects, Frederick Burn Smith and Partners, is converting it into 1,200 sq ft of offices, a flat and roof terrace.

There is an entrance hall on the ground floor, offices on the first and second floors, a kitchen and bathroom on the third floor, living accommodation on the fourth and fifth floors; and the terrace. Rooms are about 14ft square internally, connected by a spiral staircase.

Work is due to be completed in June when the 125-year lease is up for sale. Mr Christopher Marsh, of Savills, the agents, would not speculate on what it might fetch.



Mr Frederick Burn (top) and Christopher Wren.

Sun broke press code in printing Best jail diary

The Press Council criticizes *The Sun* today for buying and publishing George Best's prison diary. It says in a statement that the newspaper broke the Press Council declaration which forbids payments for feature articles to persons engaged in crime or other notorious misbehaviour unless they are warranted by the public interest.

The *Sun* carried the story of Mr Best's release from prison and of his first few hours at an hotel with his girlfriend. Throughout the following week it published excerpts from his prison diary.

The editor, Mr Kelvin MacKenzie, told the Press Council that the declaration had not been broken because although Mr Best was convicted of a crime and was serving a sentence when *The Sun* negotiated with him, he was not by any stretch of the imagination a person engaged in crime or notorious misbehaviour.

The Press Council's finding was in part: *The Sun's* purchase of Mr George Best's prison memoirs was a breach of the Press Council's declaration of principle made in 1966. This is a different case from that where a long-term criminal sells his story, but the editor's defence that

Power struggle blights Jaruzelski campaign

There is no more burning issue in the Soviet bloc today than that of economic reform. The Kremlin changeover, bringing to power a relatively reform-minded Mikhail Gorbachev, comes when Moscow's allies are struggling to overhaul their economies. This is the first of three articles in which Roger Boyes, East Europe Correspondent, examines the limits of reform in three Comecon countries.

COMECON REFORM Part 1

The founding fathers of economic reform under socialism were Poles, wise, well-read economist-philosophers such as Oskar Lange, Michal Kalecki and the venerable grandfather of reform Edward Lipinski, now, at 94, Eastern Europe's oldest dissident.

No country in the Soviet bloc has demonstrated the weakness of central planning quite as thoroughly as has Poland: and nowhere has there been such a wealth of proposals for improvement and change. Yet every step forward seems to be matched by two steps back.

Central planning, propped up in the 1970s by huge borrowing from the West, failed to meet the expectations of ordinary Poles. It did not create an export-orientated economy and its woodenness ensured that Poland could not absorb external shocks such as the 1973 oil crisis.

The rise of Solidarity in 1980 was a symptom of this breakdown and even when the Jaruzelski leadership decided to crush the free trade union, it was forced to grasp the nettle of reform.

The idea of reform throughout the bloc, primarily Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and East Germany, is to give more freedom to factory managers, introduce elements of the market into the Socialist economy and to persuade economic

enterprises to think in terms of profit rather than subsidy.

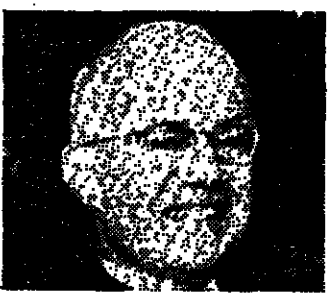
After the declaration of martial law, the Polish Government began to put into place the legal architecture of economic reform, bills that set out powers and responsibilities.

The first effect of the "reform" was a tough price rise in the dark, frozen February of 1982. This set the tone: there is little public acceptance of the sharp end of reform.

That has given muscle to the lobbies in the central apparatus of power that see reform as a threat to their existence. Devolving power to factories means taking power away from the central ministries.

Significantly the only part of the reform law that has not been passed yet is the one abolishing industrial ministries. Giving authority to worker councils means weakening the role of the Communist Party in factories.

Imposing new profit-based criteria on heavy industry puts strain on sectors - steel for example, and mechanical engineering - that traditionally saw themselves as the privileged elite of the Socialist world.



Founding fathers: Oskar Lange (left) and Edward Lipinski.

Reform is thus a struggle for power. It is at the heart of General Jaruzelski's troubles with the "hardliners" - the "concretes" as they are known in Polish - in the Communist Party. And the poor presentation, the insipid implementation of the reform, is also at the root of the fractured relationship between Government and workers.

A balance sheet of the failings

and achievements of the reform will give cold comfort to the economists from the International Monetary Fund who are frequent visitors to Warsaw now Poland is on the brink of Membership.

Managers complain that they still have to beg the authorities for extra raw materials.

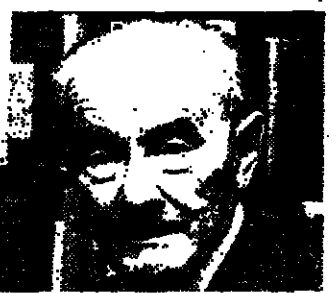
There are still powerful monopolies in industry, construction and trade.

Despite the supposed unleashing of market forces, there have been no bankruptcies.

Workers councils are being reduced to ineffectual consultative bodies in some factories, with managers withholding investment information or making swift decisions.

The system of reform assessment encourages the faking of statistics in a similar way to the central plan.

On the plus side, there is little. A sharper awareness perhaps of what people need and want to buy in the West and at home. But the trend is towards deceleration: A hard winter has crippled production and will force Poland to buy



Founding fathers: Oskar Lange (left) and Edward Lipinski.

more oil from hard currency suppliers. The debt rescheduling agreements will impose an immense financial burden on Poland and the drafting of the next five year plan will probably have to emphasize closer co-operation with the Soviet Union rather than quixotic expeditions into new Western markets.

Tomorrow: Bulgaria Price protests, page 9

Rugby puts pressure on Lange's African trip

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Mr David Lange arrived yesterday to start the first African tour by a New Zealand prime minister. It signifies his country's new interest in black Africa and will clear the way for establishing its first diplomatic mission in that political area.

Mr Lange and his party which includes senior officials and his Ambassador to Greece, Mr D G Harper (who is also accredited as High Commissioner to Kenya), will be under pressure because of African protests against plans for the All Blacks Rugby Union side to tour South Africa. It was as a result of this that Commonwealth leaders drew up the 1977 Gleneagles Declaration condemning apartheid in sport.

Kenya has welcomed the visit of Mr Lange, who is to meet President Moi in negotiations expected to emphasize their identity of views on apartheid and other subjects.

Mr Lange is to tour agricultural and energy projects before leaving tomorrow for Tanzania where he will meet President Julius Nyerere.

PORT LOUIS: Mr Lange said here that the proposed tour would do New Zealand considerable harm.

"It would be against the will of the government and the people of New Zealand and it would cause New Zealand great damage," he said in Mauritius.

Danish hospitals suffer as strike bites

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Disruption and widespread labour unrest continued in Denmark yesterday in defiance of legislation passed at the weekend to end a week-old strike by 300,000 private sector workers which is gradually bringing the country to a standstill.

Police sources said 100,000 workers demonstrated outside Parliament for the second time in a week against the austerity policies of the Conservative

Liberal minority government and its tight two per cent ceilings.

The disruption affected hospital services, kindergartens, libraries, docks, air, ferry and train services. Workers in oil and petrol, newspapers and radio, postal service, refuse collections, data programming, airport security, customs and bus drivers are still reportedly striking.

CBI urges airports expansion

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry yesterday joined the growing controversy about the future of Britain's airports by calling for expanded services from Heathrow, Stansted and Manchester, and the building of an airport in central London.

Sir Terence Beckett, the director general, in a submission to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said that airports in the south-east must be expanded to meet the expected growth in demand from foreign visitors. But foreign tour operators should also encourage customers to fly to the main regional centres, rather than London.

Manchester, Cardiff, Birmingham, Derby and Leeds/

don's third airport (Our Transport Editor writes).

"Traffic last year was 50 per cent up on 1983, the biggest annual growth, and the airport expects a further rise this year from about 500,000 passengers to nearly 600,000.

Two new services also came into being yesterday. A minibus service from the airport to Tottenham Hale station, and the Victoria line to the West End, means central London can be reached in under an hour by public transport, and a new daily service to Düsseldorf was launched by Air UK, the British regional carrier, which hopes to open further routes to Frankfurt and Copenhagen.

Stansted is growing at a record rate while the Government considers whether to allow it to expand into Lon-

Mensa lures superbrains with telephone test

By Tony Samstag

Mensa, the society of people who consider themselves highly intelligent, launches a telephone contest today to attract an estimated 1.2 million potential members in the British Isles.

A "Dial a Superbrain" competition will run throughout April with a set of *The Encyclopaedia Britannica* as the first prize. Second prize is a Spectrum 48K computer, and five runners-up will win subscriptions to the *Mind Games* puzzle magazine.

Competitors should phone their local Challenge telephone service - today for the first question. Three more questions will be set at random and competitors will have to call each day to be sure of hearing them.

Entry forms are available from Mensa headquarters in Wolverhampton and in the current issue of *Mind Games*. Mensa thinks the national

Wider role for estate agents urged

By Christopher Warman

Estate agents should be able to carry out conveyancing work by being allowed to employ solicitors and licensed conveyancers, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors has urged the Government.

Changes in the law have enabled solicitors to offer a property selling service, and the institution's recommendations would place surveyors and estate agents on an equal footing with solicitors in offering the public a complete property selling and conveyancing package.

In a memorandum to Lord Hailsham, of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, the institution suggests that new legislation should be introduced into the Administration of Justice Bill, now before Parliament. Legislation should also ensure that solicitors practising estate agency are subject to the Estate Agents Act.

Genes unit to study the brain

The latest techniques of genetic engineering are to be used in an attempt to resolve some of the mysteries of the brain and to throw light on diseases of the brain and nervous system. A research unit is to be set up in Cambridge by the Medical Research Council. It will be headed by Professor E. A. Barnard, FRS, head of the department of biochemistry, Imperial College, London University, who was the first scientist to produce a test tube gene for making a vital brain protein and to determine the structure of the protein. The research could lead to new treatments of diseases such as Huntington's chorea, Parkinsonism, muscular dystrophy and multiple sclerosis.

chemical messengers to convey information each of which is recognized by one special protein, known as a receptor. Professor Barnard said it had been very difficult to study these receptors because they were produced in such small amounts and, because of the great amount of them and a great mixture of them that occurred in any part of the brain.

But genetic engineering had opened up new avenues by making it possible to isolate single genes, produce them in a test tube, and from them to obtain quantities of the proteins for which they were responsible. Each receptor was ultimately the protein from one or more genes.

binant DNA, it was possible to determine the chemical structure of the proteins making up the receptors.

The aim was to determine deficiencies in the system, such as reduced numbers or inefficient working of receptors. That could have practical applications in hereditary diseases of the brain, such as Huntingtons chorea, and also diseases in which receptor performance might be altered, possibly by slow viruses.

The new techniques, pioneered by Professor Barnard among others, have been taken up enthusiastically in the United States and Japan but Professor Barnard's team is the only one in Britain engaged for some time in such work.

Royal Opera for Athens

The Royal Opera and the National Theatre are to appear in Athens to mark the EEC's designation of the Greek capital as the 1985 "cultural city" of Europe.

The visit is the result of the British Council's largest financial contribution for such an

Royal Opera for Athens

event. The council will sponsor the National's current production of *Coriolanus*, with Ian McKellen, in September. The Royal Opera will make its first visit to Greece performing Sir Michael Tippett's *King Priam* and Verdi's *Macbeth* with a company of more than 250.

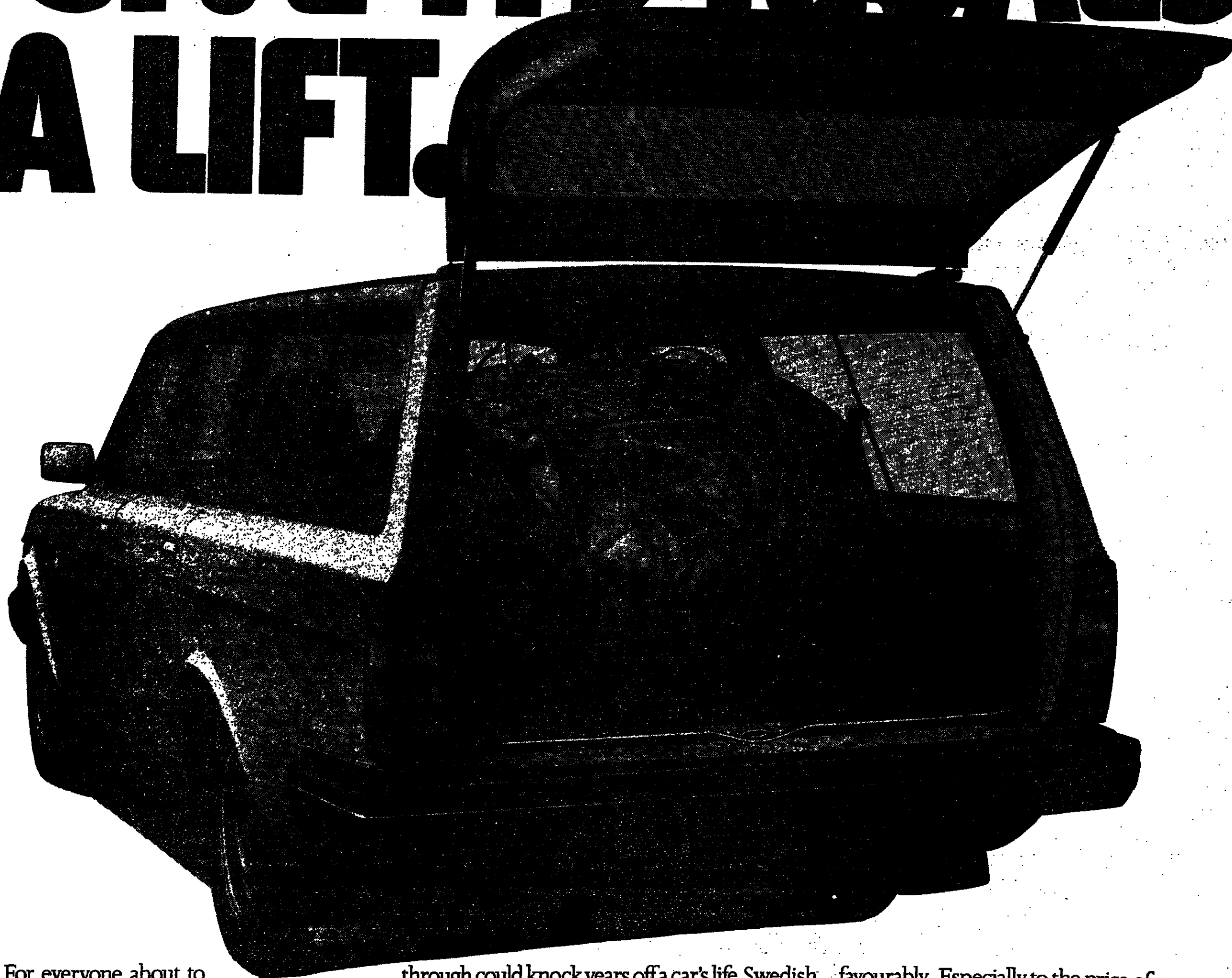
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Bonn hangs
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privatization



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So much so, that forecasts indicate that in future years London's airports could find themselves unable to cope.

The airlines would have to look to Holland, France and Germany to deposit

their passengers, their freight and their money.

The report of the Airports Inquiries 1981-1983 was recently published.

It concluded that the London airport system (of Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton and Stansted) can remain at the centre of the world's airline industry only if it expands.

The report forecast that by the next decade the demand can only be met by an increased capacity in the south-east, which means expanding Stansted Airport and building a fifth terminal at Heathrow.

Every effort should be made to develop the regional airports, but their expansion alone could not meet the future demands of the south-east.

Unless the above recommendations of the Inquiries are acted upon swiftly, the aviation industry will suffer.

Which will mean the country loses revenue and loses jobs.

We wish to see a civil aviation industry that has the freedom to grow to its full potential.

Not one that has had its wings clipped.

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سازمان اطلاعات

Police
in War
workers
at price

Baghdad's
Tehran po

Author faces
hammer
murder trial

Police on alert in Warsaw as workers protest at price rises

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Columns of riot police parked discreetly near major Warsaw factories yesterday, and managers were on the alert for unscheduled stoppages and breakdowns, as the second round of Poland's price increases came into effect.

Solidarity had called for shop-floor protests and marches to mark the increase, by some 20 per cent, of the cost of electricity, coal and gas. The increase was part of a series making a substantial dent in the living standards of working Poles and causing some anger. The prices of basic foodstuffs such as milk, bread and tea were pushed up at the beginning of March, and the price of meat is expected to go up by 15 to 20 per cent in early summer.

First signs yesterday were of police alertness, but no big political protests. Police vans and water cannon vehicles were stationed near the Warsaw steelworks and the Ursus tractor factory, and patrols stopped a number of cars with foreign registration from approaching the steel plant.

Some factory managers chose to remind their workers that striking was against the law — outside the normal negotiating procedure — and would lead to dismissal.

Other factories such as the Lenin steelworks in Nowa Huta — where Solidarity demonstrations were often staged in the past — had paid out the 14-month wage bonus for 1984 some days ago to take the edge off discontent.

In Gdansk, birthplace of Solidarity, there was a strong police presence, but the militia did not intervene when a few dozen young workers laid

flowers at the towering three crosses outside the Lenin shipyards which commemorate workers shot in price riots in 1970. Mr Lech Walesa did not attempt work in the shipyards yesterday and officially claimed that he was on sick leave.

There are several running disputes in Polish factories at present, mainly concerned with raising or maintaining wages.

In the W4 department of the Rosa Luxemburg light-bulb factory there have been five protests since the first round of price increases at the end of February. Solidarity sources say the row broke out when a foreman explained to the largely female workforce the full implications of a new work system: that many workers' wages would drop.

The women protested and the foreman was sacked. The women demanded the reinstatement of the foreman, and the director complied. But the source of the conflict has not disappeared.

● **BELGRADE:** Yugoslavia, where annual inflation is running at 70 per cent, raised prices on a wide range of goods yesterday as part of its economic adjustment programme.

After a Government announcement last week, electricity rates were increased, while the price of newspapers rose by about 40 per cent and railway transport by 15 to 32 per cent. Oil product prices went up 9 per cent at the weekend. Earlier this year retail prices of almost all consumer goods, industrial products, food and services were raised after a price freeze was lifted under pressure from the International Monetary Fund.

Baghdad's jets hit at Tehran population

Tehran (Reuters, AFP) — Iraqi aircraft yesterday bombed Tehran twice within six hours, killing at least 15 people and wounding 50 in one of the most deadly raids since attacks on the Iranian capital began three weeks ago.

Government-controlled newspapers across the city said Iraq would continue to attack Iranian cities and ships using Kharg Island oil terminal, in the north-east of the Gulf, until Tehran responded to peace appeals.

In Tokyo meanwhile, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, Mr Tariq Aziz, rejected a Japanese appeal for a ceasefire against civilian targets, but urged Iran to negotiate an honourable solution.

His Japanese counterpart, Mr Shintaro Abe, had proposed that Iran suspend attacks on each other's cities for a "certain period", but Mr Aziz said that would lead only to a partial ceasefire.

Mr Aziz, in Tokyo to brief Japanese leaders, said Iran's leaders should "stop this crazy war and sit down for negotiation on an honourable, equitable and peaceful solution".

There is still no indication that Iran is prepared to take up an offer of mediation from the

United Nations Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, who has, however, been invited both to Tehran and Baghdad.

The Baghdad military spokesman, who said Iraqi jets had raided selected targets in Tehran overnight also described an attack on a "large naval target" near Kharg Island.

Diplomatic sources speculate that by concentrating its attacks on Tehran's crowded southern suburbs — only two of eight air raids have been on the middle-class northern districts — Iraq is hoping to shake the morale of the people who form the backbone of support for continuing the war.

Iraq has retaliated with seven missile attacks on Baghdad. ● **KUWAIT:** Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State of the Foreign Office, told yesterday of Kuwait's concern over "dangerous developments" in the Gulf by the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabah (Reuters reports).

● **PARIS:** Mr Mohamed Asghar Nazemi, the former brother-in-law of the Iranian opposition leader, Massoud Rajavi, was executed last month in Tehran's Evin prison with eight others, the People's Mujahedin organization said here (Reuters reports).

Author faces hammer murder trial

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A prominent Greek author, Mr Thanasis Nasitzik, president of the Greek Writers' Union, was yesterday charged with the murder of Thanasis Diamantopoulos, treasurer of the union, in September.

Mr Diamantopoulos, aged 73, was found in the bathroom of his flat in central Athens. He had been killed by 94 hammer blows to the head and body. A neighbour said she had heard the murdered man screaming: "Don't Thanasis, don't do it".

Mr Nasitzik, aged 62, did not go to the funeral, though he had been expected to deliver the funeral oration.

Two days later he tried to kill himself with an overdose of sleeping tablets, leaving a note which said he could not bear to be treated as a suspect. His brother saved him by taking him to hospital.

Arrested five days later on tax evasion charges, Mr Nasitzik was also questioned about the murder. He denied any link and produced an alibi which police said he had failed to substantiate.

He was freed after paying part of his tax debt, but police said he remained a prime suspect. He was questioned again yesterday after Mr Panayotis Diamantopoulos, aged 30, son of the murdered man, sued him for murder.

High farm spenders ticked off

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

EEC farm ministers were lectured by the European Commission on the cost of their extravagances when they met in Luxembourg yesterday.

They were told that it would cost the cash-starved Community about £180 million more this year and a total of £630 million overall to meet all their current-price demands.

The warning came as the ministers resumed their marathon unenthusiastic search for agreement this year. In theory, the annual farm price deal should have been in force from the start of April, but since nothing more than a price freeze is on offer, no country but France sees any real urgency in finding a settlement.

West Germany, despite the growing surplus in cereals, still wants a price increase rather than the 3.67 per cent reduction proposed. Without an agreement, therefore, West German cereal farmers will be better off.

Meanwhile, the Community's dairy surplus is growing again, after slight reduction during the winter months with the help of the highly expensive cheap Christmas butter scheme. In the last fortnight the butter mountain has grown by 7,000 tonnes and the skimmed milk powder pile has increased by 48,000 tonnes. With summer coming on, production is likely to surge ahead again.

Despite this, there is growing support among farm ministers for the campaign by West Germany and Holland against cutting quotas by a further 1 per cent, as was agreed last year.

Duarte on way to spectacular upset

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Confounding virtually all predictions, President José Napoleón Duarte's Christian Democrats appear to have pulled off a spectacular upset in Sunday's elections for a new National Assembly, El Salvador's parliament. Party officials say only fraud can stop them from winning now.

The moderate Christian Democrat Party (PDC) has officially claimed it has won a majority in the 60-seat assembly. With more than 60 per cent of the votes counted yesterday morning, it was heading for a majority in the Assembly of 33 seats out of 60.

An independent exit poll, which predicted last year's presidential elections result with absolute exactitude, has also indicated the PDC has won 33 seats.

For the last three years the Assembly has been under firm control of the right wing parties, the PDC having won only 24 seats in elections in 1982.

Christian Democrat officials believe that a key reason why President Duarte has failed fully to impose himself on the government during his 10 months in office, has been that the right-wing assembly, controlled by Major Roberto d'Aubuisson and his political associates, has consistently frustrated his plans for judiciary and economic reforms.

More important, his sup-



Eager to vote: Electors in San Salvador queue before the start of polling in the National Assembly elections as officials check their voting registers.

porters say that with the Assembly against him, President Duarte has been impeded from pursuing with the vigour he would like the peace talks he began last October with the guerrillas of the left wing Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, now in their sixth year of war against the American-supported Government.

Senior Christian Democrat officials said at a celebration in the party headquarters on Sunday night that their electoral victory represented a triumph for peace. Fully confi-

dent of having won an assembly majority, PDC officials said the result reflected an overwhelming desire among Salvadorans to seek a peaceful, non-military solution to a civil war which has cost 50,000 lives and driven one million people out of their homes.

The right had feared that an unrestrained President Duarte would wreak havoc with the economy, carrying out reforms that would undermine the traditional privileges of the wealthy and powerful minority in the business and landed sectors.

They also fear the President might make so many concessions in negotiations with the guerrillas that, as one d'Aubuisson supporter said: "El Salvador will become another Nicaragua."

Yet President Duarte and his most senior officials have emphasized recent interviews that they would pursue only mild economic reforms, concessions of the need to avoid a destabilizing backlash from the powerful and well-armed right. Political observers believe that in any future peace talks, President Duarte, confident of

the strength of the Government's army, will be seeking concessions from the guerrillas and not the other way around.

● The army kept tight control in all electoral districts on Sunday and voting took place in many villages where it had not been possible in last year's presidential poll (AFP reports). Guerrilla activity was limited to a few acts of sabotage against electricity cables and the isolated machine gunning of road traffic. Most electoral problems appeared to have been caused by bad organization.

Betancur to press Reagan on Contadora

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

President Belisario Betancur of Colombia arrives in Washington today for a three-day visit, determined to prove there is still life in the Contadora group but unlikely to convince President Reagan of the virtues of its peace initiative in Central America. Señor Betancur has long been the driving force behind Contadora, in which Colombia's partners are Mexico, Venezuela and Panama. He aims to enlist the Reagan Administration's support for the group's efforts to forge a negotiated peace in the troubled region.

Mr Reagan and Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, have always voiced United States support for Contadora, and no doubt will do so again when they meet Señor Betancur on Thursday.

However, such expressions are regarded in Latin America as little more than polite lip service in the light of the not-so-secret war being waged against Nicaragua's Government by the US-backed Contras and Mr Reagan's recent admission that he seeks nothing less than the overthrow of the Sandinistas whom he views as Marxist-Leninist and totalitarian.

Señor Betancur left Bogotá on Saturday to call on the presidents of the three other Contadora countries on his way north and the presidents of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.



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The Territorials

Non-nuclear stance may stop Japan joining Star Wars

From David Watts, Tokyo

Japan has received the American invitation to join the Strategic Defence Initiative programme and an expert, General Brent Scowcroft, arrives this week to explain it. Officially, Japan will gauge the implications and reply to the United States within 60 days. In reality, a study by the Defence Agency has been under way for some time, though it denies it.

The Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, is on record as expressing "understanding" of SDI, also known as "Star Wars", but Tokyo maintains that does not mean it endorses the idea.

Parts of the Defence Agency study have appeared in the Japanese press and from these it appears the agency has been looking at both nuclear and non-nuclear methods of powering the lasers that the system would require to shoot down incoming missiles.

In broad terms it appears that the nuclear-powered option is the only practical one, making it virtually impossible for Japan to join the programme if it is to stick by its non-nuclear principles.

There are many other complications which could thwart any ambition Mr Nakasone might have of joining the Americans in "Star Wars". But the Americans believe Japan could make important contributions, particularly in communications technology.

Not least of the snags is that Japan is allowed to export technology for military use only to the US. At present the Government is arguing that participation would amount to a bilateral arrangement with the US, but with the possibility of participation by the Nato countries and Israel that argument might be hard to sustain.

On the militarization of space, the Diet passed a resolution in 1969 pledging itself to the peaceful use of space and any suggestion that Japan joins the US programme would come under heavy fire from the Opposition.

The cost of joining in the research could cause enormous problems, with the defence budget already a source of almost constant controversy. The Nakasone administration has made clear its intention, despite widespread objections, of increasing the amount spent on defence above the notional limit of 1 per cent of GNP, but the extra amount will go on such items as salaries.

The cost of SDI research would make defence a much more contentious issue, unless the private sector could be persuaded to pick up the bill.

Any decision to take part in SDI would undoubtedly cause problems in Japan's relationship with the Soviet Union at a time when Tokyo is trying hard to improve matters, with a visit by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, in prospect.

Israel participation might also complicate relations with Arab countries, since that might be inclined to see it as a form of military co-operation.

The Defence Agency apparently argues that the output of one chemically-powered laser would need to be 25 megawatts, using hydrogen fluoride as fuel. Some 240 laser would be required to tackle the Soviet Union's 1,400 intercontinental ballistic missiles. The agency estimates that 1,000 tons of fuel would be needed, necessitating 67 shuttle flights alone to carry the fuel to laser bases in space.

Nuclear-powered lasers would clearly be more practical

● BONN: West Germany's decision on whether to join in "Star Wars" research will not depend on the attitude of its European allies (Reuters reports).

Herr Peter Boenisch, the government spokesman, said yesterday that Bonn would still prefer a joint European approach but believed this might prove difficult. "It is not a condition for us that cooperation would have to be organized with all the allies together".



Shared grief: Pablo Picasso's widow, Jacqueline (right), consoling Marc Chagall's widow, Valentina, at Chagall's funeral in Saint-Paul-de-Vence, France.

Afghan guerrillas kill former leader

Islamabad (Reuters) - Guerrillas in northern Afghanistan have killed a former guerrilla commander who secretly worked with the Kabul Government to block resistance supplies from entering the strategic Panjshir valley.

A guerrilla spokesman said the death of the former commander, Juma Khan, announced on Sunday night by the official Kabul Radio, was a setback for communist forces trying to control the Amdarab valley just north of Panjshir.

Juma Khan had regularly blocked food convoys crossing his valley to Panjshir, a former guerrilla stronghold which Soviet and Afghan forces partially occupied in an offensive last spring, the guerrilla spokesman said.

Soviet and Afghan forces have been massing near the western end of Panjshir, a long narrow valley overlooking the main highway from Kabul to the Soviet Union, and are expected to launch another offensive there soon.

Soviet troops have mined orchards near Kandahar, killing up to 50 people since mid-March, and condemning the local Afghan economy to ruin to win greater security for forces based near by.

Cholera kills 300 refugees in Somali city suburb

From a Special Correspondent, Mogadishu

Cholera has killed more than 300 asylum-seekers at a makeshift camp on the edge of Hargeisa, Somalia, after the first rains of the year. More than 400 are being treated in a tented isolation unit hurriedly set up by the army. Western Doctors say hundreds more could be affected already.

Government confirmation that the epidemic is cholera came five days after the first deaths, and followed tests carried out by the World Health Organization and the Somali Health Ministry.

There are 46,000 Oromo and Somali-speaking asylum-seekers crowded into the spontaneous camp perched on a hill in the middle-class suburb of Gannad on the edge of Hargeisa. Most of them have come from Ethiopia in the last three months, fleeing persecution and drought.

The camp was not officially recognised until mid-February when voluntary agencies were allowed in to help for the first time, as it had no water supply or sanitation. During the rains, water runs off Gannad Hill and into the river running through the centre of Hargeisa, the second largest city in Somalia with a population of 250,000.

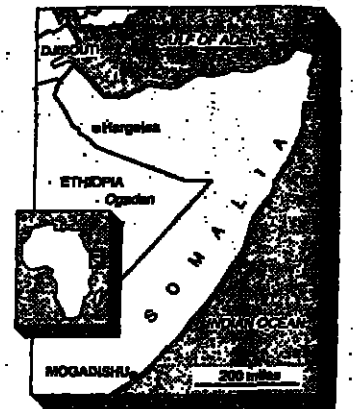
Four cases of cholera were reported in the city on one evening, and four more in neighbouring settlements. Now plans are being drawn up to limit the free flow of refugees from the camp into the city, and Hargeisa itself has been sealed off by the army. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was proposing to move the asylum-seekers 135 miles along a dirt road to a new rural site. The Save The Children Fund is establishing the camp at a cost of £500,000 because no money is available from UNHCR in Somalia. Late decision-making has meant that many items for the new camp are having to be airfreighted.

British aid workers are taking a lead in setting up the new camp. Water engineers now have more time to put in pumps, and the Save The Children Fund is continuing to work on basic infrastructure.

UNICEF and Save The Children

dren Fund Doctors have advised that the camp should not be moved until the epidemic has been contained, but they are agreed that the peak has not yet been reached.

Western aid workers are highly critical of the way the situation has been handled, and say the asylum-seekers should have been moved from the disease-ridden Gannad site months ago, long before the rains were due. The death rate at Gannad has long been 20 times higher than any other camp in Somalia. Decisions have been deferred while agreement has been sought on the need for a reception camp to cope with the influx from Ethiopia, estimated to total 105,000 since July 1984.



Some 300 new asylum-seekers reach Hargeisa daily, and the authorities have not yet decided where they should stay now they no longer have access to Gannad.

A medical team from the international Red Cross is due to arrive today, and medicines have been flown up from Mogadishu on orders from President Siad Barre. There is however no disinfectant in Hargeisa and there is a shortage of almost every other item needed. The Save The Children Fund is sending a team of nurses and Government ministers have appealed to the international community for help.

Mayor shot dead in Philippines

From Keith Dalton, Manila

A suspected communist "death squad" killed a central Philippines town mayor while left-wing rebels fought in weekend clashes which left 22 people dead, military officials said yesterday.

Three gunmen shot dead Federico Cua, the Mayor of Javier, 390 miles southeast of Manila, as he talked with neighbours outside his house on the central island of Leyte.

His death came five days after suspected communist gunmen ambushed and killed the mayor of Dinaraling in Zamboanga del Sur province.

Mayor Cua's killers escaped and rejoined 30 other rebels while Government troops tracked them into the bush. A running gunbattle several hours later left one soldier dead and three wounded.

In four other weekend battles on the war-torn southern island of Mindanao 21 people were killed.

The worst clash was in a remote village in Bukidnon province where suspected communist rebels sprayed a house with automatic fire, killing a family of seven and one other person.

In two other clashes in neighbouring Misamis Oriental province, villagers belonging to an anti-communist religious cult hunted down and killed six communist guerrillas in a vendetta against rebels who last Wednesday reportedly killed 20 villagers.

Zimbabwe troops sent to aid police

From Jan Raath, Harare

Troops from the support unit, the combat wing of Zimbabwe's police force, have been deployed in poor sections of the eastern city of Mutare to deal with violence that began 10 days ago.

Up until late last week, young zealots from the ruling party, Zanu (PF), were forcibly evicting opposition party supporters from their homes in the Danganvura and Sakubva townships.

The gangs ordered scores of occupants out of their tiny houses, moved their furniture and belongings into the street and smashed windows and tore down fencing.

At his rally in Harare on Sunday, Mr Joshua Nkomo, president of the Zanu party, denounced the ruling party for letting its youth organization take the law into its own hands.

On Monday last week, Mr Edgar Tekere, the controversial former party secretary-general who is provincial chairman in Mutare, publicly ordered the party's youth to stop but the evictions went on.

On Friday, Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, the third-ranking personality in Zanu (PF)'s politburo, issued similar instructions in Mutare.

After his visit, the support unit troops were called in. No official comment could be obtained but sources said the troops had been deployed to boost the strength of local regular police.

Zia's men to follow the presidential line

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

Mr Muhammad Khan Junejo, newly elected Prime Minister of Pakistan, has indicated no change in foreign policy or in most internal policies followed by President Zia since he imposed martial law in 1977.

Mr Junejo comes from the southern province of Sindh, the home of the executed Prime Minister Bhutto. Even though martial law continues, he was installed a March 23 by General Zia after the non-political parliamentary election in February.

His first comprehensive pol-

icy statement, broadcast on both television and radio, apparently disappointed the entire opposition despite his conditional offer that it might join his non-party government's efforts to re-establish democratic institutions. The opposition must accept the February election, which it had boycotted, he said; a political process through elections was the only way to end martial law.

Mr Junejo's speech was marked by its vagueness on the time frame for an end to martial law.

Rock flight rules eased

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain yesterday published new regulations to permit civilian aircraft safer access when flying in and out of Gibraltar airport.

In the Brussels agreement on Gibraltar's future, which led to February's complete opening by Spain of the land frontier, early steps were promised by Madrid

to ensure safe and effective air communications.

Under the new rules, pilots will have more room to get round the Rock and manoeuvre over Algeciras Bay, which faces Gibraltar. They will be able to make a broad sweep, instead of having to band steeply and descend suddenly on the airport.



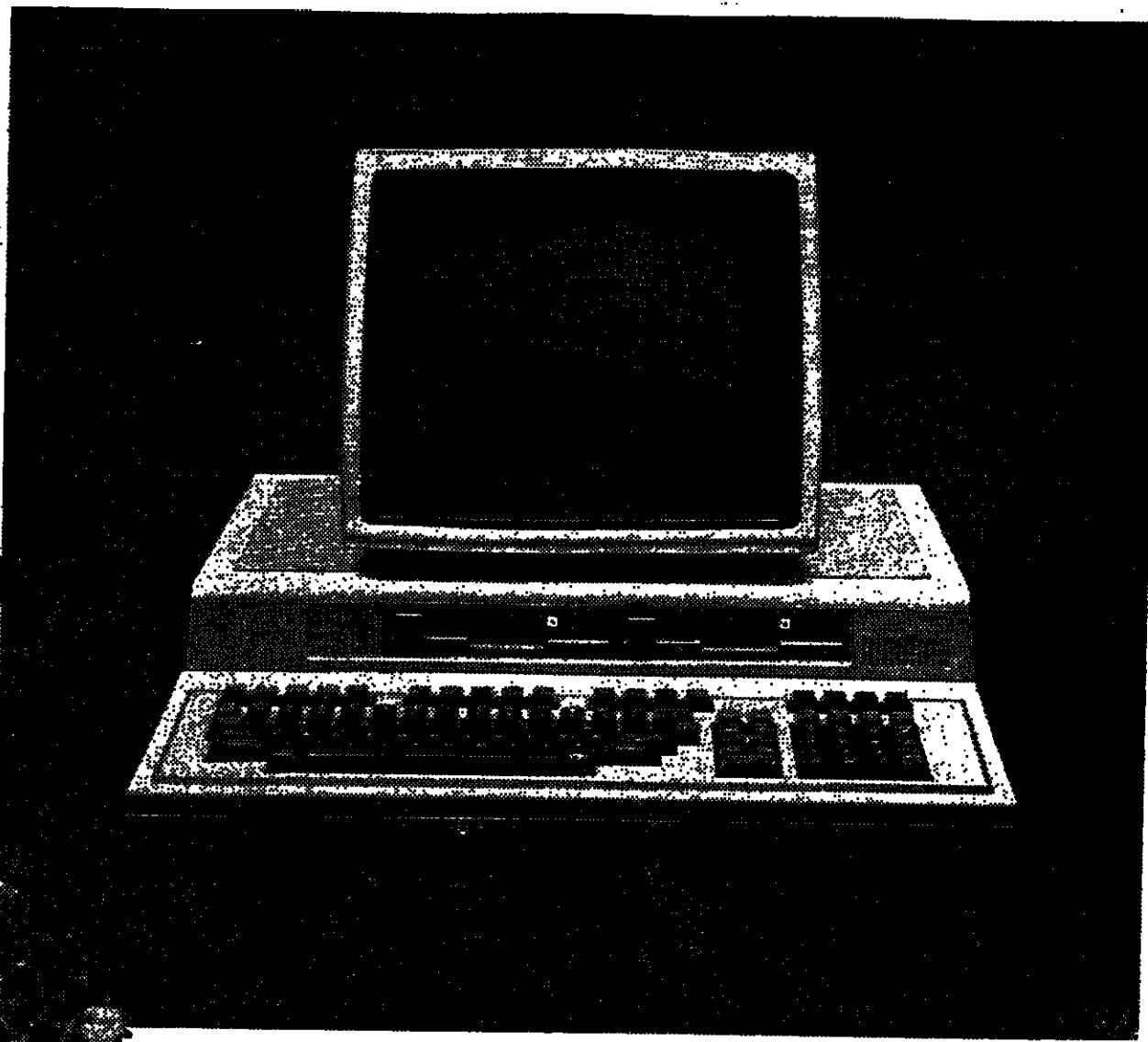
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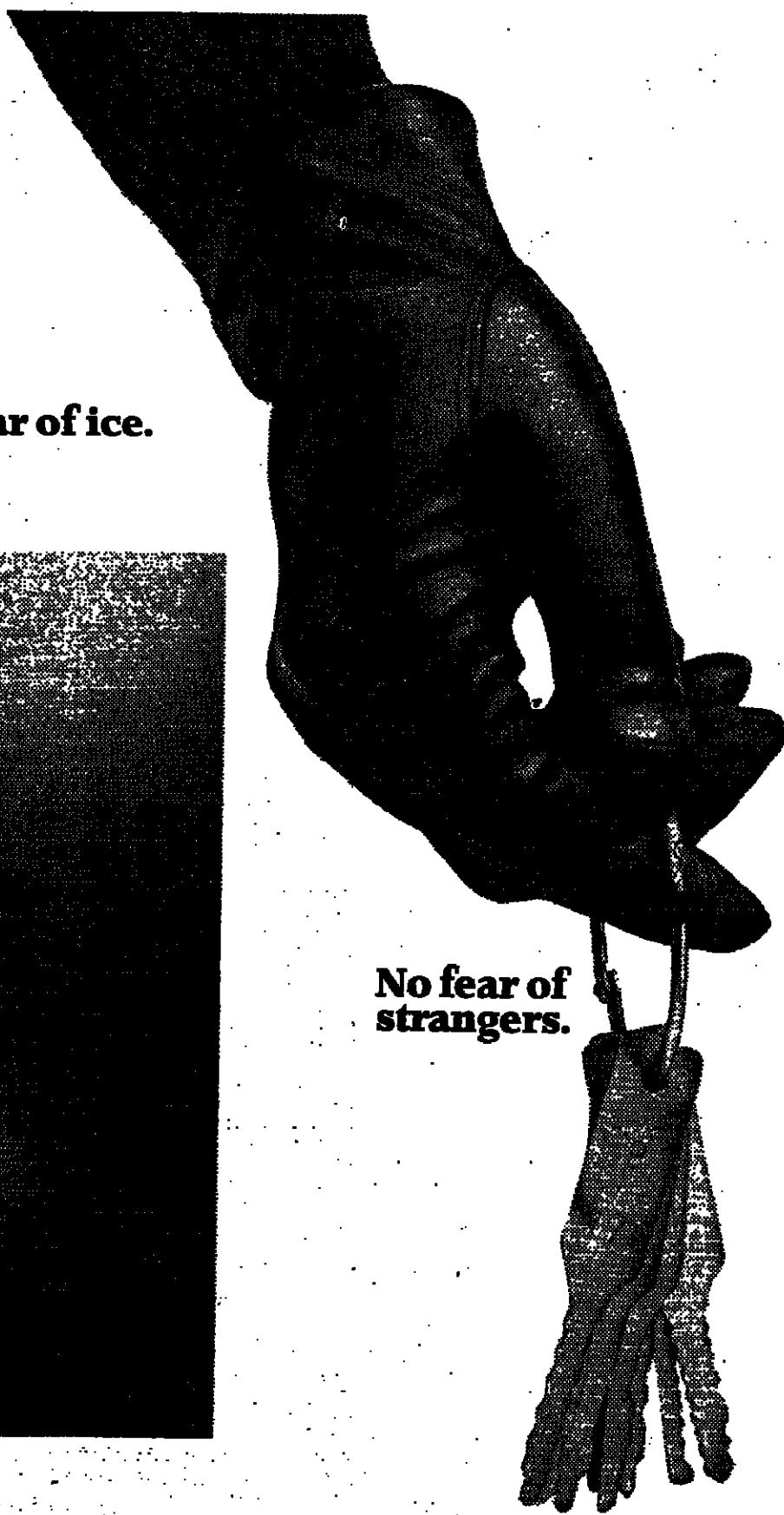


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SPECTRUM

On the third anniversary of the Falklands invasion, David Walker reveals how Churchill gave the islands to Argentina in 1941 as a ploy to draw the US into the war in Europe

How Britain hoodwinked Roosevelt

Forty years ago the British government gave away the Falklands. With a stroke of a Whitehall issue fountain pen it signed the islands over to Argentina. In a dark hour of the war against Hitler when Buenos Aires was crawling with *Abwehr* spies and the River Plate was a safe haven for German battleships, Argentina was awarded her beloved Malvinas at Churchill's behest.

Well, almost. What follows is fact, based on new detective work by two American historians, John Bratzel and Leslie R. R. But there is an element of fiction. It concerns intelligence work which despite all the memoirs and research in the years since the Second World War is still only half-known. It has suited the government and its spies to keep the jigsaw incomplete.

For it's a story about deception. A Passport Control Office in New York which wasn't a factory for forgeries near Toronto; and a shed full of Mio clerks on Bermuda opening the mailbags of neutral countries in order to doctor letters.

And not only to deceive the Germans. The aim was to manipulate friends as well. This tale about Britain's paper donation of the Falklands to Argentina is a footnote to the history of the Second World War - but it has echoes today.

A month ago Mrs Thatcher - the plaudits of Congress ringing in her ears - presented United States Senators and Representatives with a statuette of Winston Churchill. In 1941 Churchill made it his business to hoodwink Congress, to con its members in order to push American political opinion in the direction of abandoning the neutrality of the United States. Argentina and the Falklands were part of his plot.

On October 27, 1941 as technicians from the radio companies quickly unspooled their cables behind the top table, President Franklin Roosevelt was helped in front of the microphones that were to broadcast his address to the annual Navy Day dinner.

Towards the end of his speech he made a dramatic announcement. "I have in my possession a secret map, made in Germany by Hitler's government - by planners of the new world order..."

In mid-autumn 1941 the United States was at peace. Despite Roosevelt's personal regard both for Britain and for Churchill, American political opinion was strongly against intervention in a European war. There was sentimental regard for the British and Roosevelt had got away with giving the British some material assistance, but the neutrality act was firmly in place.

When it came to protecting America, it was a different story - and America meant not just the United States but the Panama Canal, indeed the whole of Latin America. A poll earlier in 1941 had shown 86 per cent of Americans wanted war if "any European power" attacked a Latin American country. And if the Brits were instrumental in stopping Panzers landing on the

Copacabana, then assistance to them was justifiable.

A secret map... Roosevelt told his audience. "It is a map of South America and a part of Central America as Hitler proposes to reorganize it."

The geographical experts of Berlin have ruthlessly obliterated all the existing boundary lines, bringing the whole continent under their domination... This map makes clear the Nazi design not only against South America but against the United States as well.

A bombshell. At a press conference the next day Roosevelt amplified his theme, holding up a facsimile of the document. And there it was: instead of fourteen Latin American republics, the entire map had been re-drawn to show a hugely expanded Brazil, a new Brazil, a Chile that stretched all the way from Tierra del Fuego to the capital of the Pacific. Panama was gone, the precious canal fell under a new country, New Spain, incorporating Venezuela and Colombia. Vichy France was compensated by its Guayanese colony swallowing up neighbouring Dutch and British territories. And, of course, the Islas Malvinas were tightly incorporated into new Argentina - an expanse including Uruguay, Paraguay, parts of Bolivia and a new corridor to the Pacific at Antofagasta.

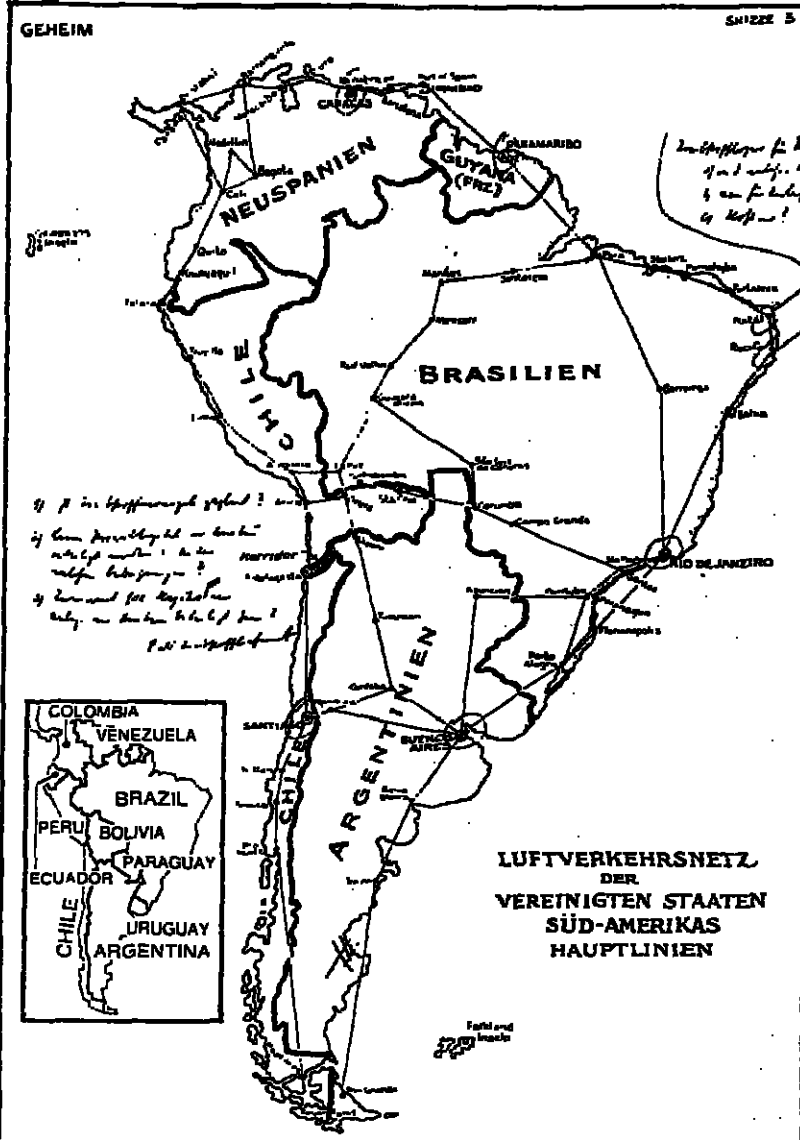
American opinion was outraged. The plan would put German bombers within range of Florida. The soft underbelly of the United States would be pierced. "Hitler has often protested that his plans for conquest do not extend across the Atlantic Ocean," said Roosevelt. But here was clear evidence of Nazi designs on the New World.

A week later the Senate repealed the Neutrality Acts and the House of Representatives, till then an even stronger focus of American isolationist sentiments, followed suit. Roosevelt had a free hand to wage covert war against German submarines in the North Atlantic to assist British convoys. The map had worked.

That is the forged map worked. What is now indisputable is that Berlin's angry disclaimer after Roosevelt's press conference was correct. The map was a British forgery.

At the press conference Roosevelt had been asked to circulate a copy of the map so it could be published in the newspapers. He regretted that "it has on it certain manuscript notations, which if they were reproduced would in all probability disclose... where the map came from."

Here is where the detective story begins. In 1941 there were those who immediately suspected it was a British con-trick. Among them was Senator Burton K. Wheeler, a pro-German. In the Senate he said (with great prescience) that the map originated in New York in the minds of gentlemen closely associated with the British government. But Roosevelt said simply the map came from an "undoubtedly reliable" source and that was that.



The forged map showing an enlarged Brazil and Argentina, with (inset) the correct 1941 borders

The semi-official story about the map emerged from the British side in the early 1960s as information (and disinformation) began trickling out about the British intelligence operation in America. A key figure, and subject of much hagiography, was Sir William Stephenson, code-named Intrepid, head of M16 in New York. Officially a Passport Control Officer, Stephenson was British Security Co-ordinator in the United States, the head of a team that included Freddie (Sir Alfred) Ayer and composer Eric Maschwitz and which was responsible for the interception of transatlantic mail, intelligence training activities in Canada and a large network of agents throughout Latin America.

The story (according to former agent Montgomery Hyde) was that the map, a genuine article, had been stolen from a German courier, who was later killed by the Gestapo for his bungling. British intelligence passed the map to "Big Bill" Donovan, the American co-ordinator of intelligence information and from him it reached Roosevelt. But historians Bratzel and Rott discovered that the "courier" named in British files was in fact a senior diplomat, one Gottfried Sandstedt, chief of the German *Auslandsorganisation* in Argentina and that he met his death years later fighting honourably on the Eastern front. Moreover, it is almost irrelevant whether there was a genuine map because British Security Co-ordination in New York had determined the controversial boundaries of the map held up by Roosevelt: British intelligence made territorial alterations in Latin America on a "Nazi" map, including the huge expansion of Argentina and the incorporation of the Falklands.

In fact there had been a "genuine" map. In 1940 a map had been hung on the walls of the Nazi Party headquarters in Buenos Aires depicting the rewards that Latin American countries might receive if the Germans won the war. British intelligence may subsequently have obtained a copy of this. But more important was the cartographic work done at Station M, an M16 laboratory near Toronto where the false map, complete with handwritten annotations in German, was produced. Sir William Stephenson then passed the

finished product to Donovan as another of a series of deceptions that were his stock in trade.

Doctoring a map raised few eyebrows in an intelligence operation that covertly paid for a pro British line to be taken by certain American radio journalists, that forged a controversial letter from the Bolivian legation in Berlin and employed several female agents for the purpose of seducing foreign embassy staff in Washington.

Did the Americans not suspect what was going on? The State Department was certainly suspicious. "I think we have to be a little on our guard against false scares," said Assistant Secretary Adolf Berle in a memo in September 1941.

The intriguing question which historians may never answer, is whether Roosevelt himself knew of the British deception. James Murphy, who was an executive assistant to Donovan in 1941 and is now a senior Washington lawyer, says that if Donovan had suspected the map was not authentic he would never have forwarded it to the President.

But did Roosevelt care about its authenticity? Roosevelt's private papers disclose that he accepted untruths and intentional deception as part of the life-or-death game of war. He knew of Ultra, the British decoding operation at Bletchley, and may have assumed they had obtained it by some super-secret means.

On October 21 when Donovan told him of the map, it was obvious that such a timely document could be a valuable weapon in fighting isolationist opinion in the US Congress. Had the United States remained at peace, its authenticity might have been challenged and FDR gravely embarrassed.

But as things turned out, some forty days after his Navy Day dinner, Japanese fighter bombers attacked the American Pacific fleet at anchor in Pearl Harbor. All debate ended as the American war machine trundled into action.

* For the full story see John F. Bratzel and Leslie R. Rott Jr "FDR and the Secret Map" in *The Wilson Quarterly*, New Year edition 1985.

From stage fright to centre stage

In extracts from his diary, playwright Jeremy Brock tells how his first script for a full-length play was accepted by the Bristol New Vic and progressed to the opening night



Actress Greta Scacchi makes up for *In Times Like These*

Earlier this month Jeremy Brock's first full-length play opened at the Theatre Royal, New Vic Studio in Bristol. Directed by Paul Unwin it stars Greta Scacchi (best known for her roles in *Heat and Dust*, *Dr Fischer of Geneva* and *The Ebony Tower*) and Tim Woodward, who played Hippolytus opposite Glenda Jackson in *Phaedra* and Joab opposite Richard Gere in the new film *King David*. The play, called *In Times Like These*, spans almost 30 years and tells the story of two idealistic English students who fall passionately in love during the Hungarian Uprising only to find themselves torn apart and dwarfed by the next two decades of European history.

For Jeremy Brock, a script editor with the BBC, this production represents a first break into the established theatre. His production diary offers an intriguing insight into the events leading up to the opening night - from the first telephone call to the publication of the reviews.

January 24, 1984 Sent another wedge of scripts to various Reps and Studio Theatres. All the same play - *In Times Like These* - which I finally completed this month. This is the one about the two students who fall in love in Budapest in 1956. Spans 30 years. Probably far too big. Everybody's asking for two-handers these days.

January 30 Letter arrived from Paul Unwin, Associated Director of the Bristol Old Vic. He has read *In Times Like These* and likes it. He likes the play! Asked to meet me some time this summer to discuss it.

October 7 Finally met Paul in Bristol after endless delays. He says there's now a very real chance of the play getting a slot in the New Vic Spring Season, but the Bristol Old Vic governors still have to approve the season first.

October 25 Paul telephoned to confirm that the governors have just passed the Spring Season. Rehearsals begin on February 18. I want to fix this feeling so I don't forget. Finally, finally, it's on.

November 27 First script meeting with Paul in Bristol. The play's going to need far more rewriting than I'd anticipated. The first 30 pages and the opening of the second half are in for open-heart surgery. The rest will be more cosmetic. Why does that depress me? I have this terrible urge to say to Paul: "This is the best I can do... take it or leave it."

January 3, 1985 Sent Paul the rewrites. I'm not happy but I said nothing. Why they haven't come together I can't tell. I've been up at 7 and every morning make use of the sharpest part of the day but the writing still feels blunt.

January 11 Paul telephoned about the rewrites. "I think you should come up next Sunday and we'll talk some more." Obviously he doesn't like them. I don't either so what's all the bloody fuss about. I'm getting bored of this not working.

January 13 Tense session with Paul in Bristol. Prickly, argumentative and knackered but exactly what was needed. Now feel the air's been cleared. Did almost all the rewrites on the one-and-a-half-hour trip back from Bristol to London.

January 14 Worked on the changes made on the train. I spend six weeks failing to get it right and one-and-a-half hours on a train and it works. This is not an economical profession.

January 16 Paul telephoned from Bristol. He's read the rewrites and is very excited. Sounded quite fraught though. "From now on any changes we make will have to be added on because we're already late with the rehearsal script". Hadn't realised how close we were to the starting line. The good news is that we're getting an extra week of rehearsal which means four instead of the usual three.

January 18 Another call from Paul. Greta Scacchi and Tim Woodward, have agreed to play the leads. Apparently they accepted the script which gives me a bloody nice kick. Two terrific actors and clearly people of fine intelligence.

February 18 First day of rehearsals. Caught the early train from London to

Bristol. Arrived at stage door 9.45 am. Paul is there to greet me and we set off for a general meet-the-theatre-staff tour. The question is whether my nerves are showing. Smile Jeremy, smile. On now to the production meeting with the technical crew. Into the Rehearsal Room. Seats in a semi-circle. Everybody looks distinctly unimpressed by the play. I don't think I'd feel more exposed standing completely naked in Trafalgar Square.

Paul takes us through the miniature for the set with models of each piece of furniture. Somebody cracks a joke about the play being technically impossible to stage. Laugh Jeremy, laugh. 1.30 pm: down to the foyer to meet the actors. My God, Tim Woodward's enormous. Drinks! Introductions. 1.55 pm and five minutes to the readthrough. Am now feeling physically sick. 1.59 pm: slip back to the foyer for a double gin and tonic. Can always pretend it's soda water. 2 pm: readthrough of play.

concentrate properly, and time's running short. March 4 Up 'till 4 am getting that damn scene worked out. There have been too many frayed tempers over this scene, and it shouldn't have been like this. Almost all the fuss could have been avoided if I'd only had a clearer idea of what I wanted in the first place. Not an easy episode.

March 9 First run-through of the second half. This is working well. It's good to watch actors developing their parts. I love the way they shift gear the second they get on stage. It can be 10 am after a night of near-rem-failure through alcohol poisoning and yet the moment they hit the stage they uncoil in front of our eyes. Sweat, stunk and magic. Love it.

March 11 First run-through of the whole play. Paul warned me that I'd be disappointed and he's right. It's not that it doesn't work or that I no longer believe in it, it's just that it suddenly feels terribly raw and bloody. Why anyone should be interested in this play God only knows.

March 13 Second run-through of the play. Better. Definitely better.

March 18 Tonight we have our first Dress Run. Technically a nightmare. Looking at the actors taking notes from Paul I think that tomorrow evening these poor sods have to perform in front of a full house with 38 press scratching away. They all look so nervous.

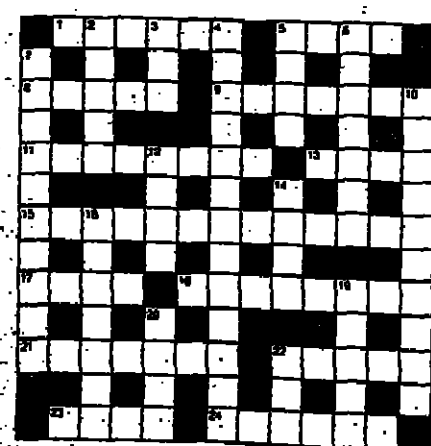
March 19 How do you describe the First Night? Sitting there with the first audience who've ever seen it. Willing them to concentrate, willing them to understand the ambitions. The odd thing is that by this stage of the process you are already aware of the changes you would make if there were more time. But will they appreciate the overall thrust of it? Looking at it tonight, I love every single one of the actors - their commitment and their energy. No great cock-ups but still it was very much like running the gauntlet. The press sat there looking massively unimpressed but then I didn't want it for them and so I mustn't allow them to hurt.

March 24 The play has now been running for five days. *The Sunday Times* has just printed a very nice review. The reaction of the press has been extraordinary. The local papers seemed insulted by the episodic structure - as if they yearned for three walls, a proper curtain and the Aristotelian rules of Time, Place and Action. Severn Sounds, a local radio station, gave it what can only be described as a "rave" review. Eric Shorter of *The Telegraph* was honest and honourable. I think he disliked the play but he at least engaged with it seriously, for which I was grateful. Nicholas de Jongh of *The Guardian* was simply snide. I felt saddened because he clearly writes with intelligence and yet everything comes out with a bitchy undertone.

What irritated me more is that so few young writers are given the opportunity that I've been given. From producers and critics alike we hear the cry that we should "encourage ambitious new plays". It's then that I wonder if critics realise just how much damage they can do when they write so carelessly of new plays.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 610)

ACROSS
1 Distant (3,3)
5 Enormous (4)
8 Group of eight (5)
9 Spring back (7)
11 Made void (8)
12 Mimus (4)
13 Metropolitan
14 Police founder (3,4)
17 Charitable money (4)
18 Deceased lung sound (8)
19 Mammal (7)
20 Step (5)
21 Applaud (4)
24 Being (6)
DOWN
2 Comply with (3,2)
3 Not at home (3)
4 French action force (5,6)
5 Tramp (4)
6 Swiss hotel cheese (7)
7 Neutral zone (2,4)
10 Revelation (10)
12 Booty (4)
14 Footprint (4)
15 Residue change (7)
16 Splish (4)
19 Characteristic (5)
20 Splash (4)
22 Be seated (3)



SOLUTION TO No 609
ACROSS: 1 Dacha 4 Misdread 9 Brawl 10 Einstein 11 Vino
13 Five Nations 17 Rage 18 Pillager 21 Memento 22 Gloss 23 Special
24 Eblis
DOWN: 1 Dubbed 2 Chain 3 Aborted 4 Multinational 5 Sane
6 Elation 7 Deacon 12 Dialogue 14 Ingenue 15 Grumps 16 Caisles
19 Chouli 20 Hi B

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Genoa rediscovers America



Christopher Columbus (above) has now been returned to the Genoans after having been described, at one time or another, as Portuguese, Majorcan or even an unscrupulous stand-in who took the place of the real Columbus after the master-mariner died in a shipwreck. His native city intends to pay him full honours by planning a total restoration of the old city around the port, which for years has been in decay. No one knows quite where the Columbus family lived, but his boyhood home is regarded with some logic as having been in this area.

The city is planning two principal projects. The first is a great exhibition devoted to explorations and great discoveries. Its main purpose will be to illustrate Genoa's cultural and technological contributions to seafaring from the times of Columbus. The second project, the restoration of the medieval city, is an ambitious one, since Genoa's historic centre is claimed to be the largest surviving anywhere in the world. There are also plans for opening a maritime museum, which is expected to provide a survey of the history of shipping.

The projects will involve new roads, a subway system, sports facilities and the installation of air and water purifiers. The city's budget provides for 350,000 lire (£60m) of expenditure this year, aimed at transforming the



Money for urban renewal: Genoa's banking centre

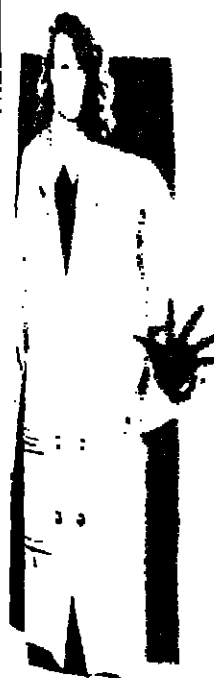
urban tissue of a city which has lately suffered heavily from the impact of recession of its shipyards and heavy industries. That is a lot to honour a citizen who, for all his virtues, was arguably responsible for the decline of both Genoa and the Mediterranean. One of the consequences of his fixation for heading West was the economic decay of his native sea. More over his fascination like Captain Cook's, with charts and navigation, seems to have limited his interest in the riches of central America which he left to be plundered by Pizarro.

Regional and municipal leaders, led by Signor Rinaldo Ossola, who presides over the Liguria regional administration, revealed their plans to an international gathering invited aboard the cruise-ship *Eugenio C*. It included leaders of the community which used to be called *Italo-Americana* but is now seen to consist of Ameri-

cans of Italian origin. The Columbus celebrations will be taken not only to mark the discovery of America but also in a sense to confirm that the 15 to 20 million Americans whose families came from Italy are now fully integrated into the American system. So much so that they feel freer now than at any other time to come to Italy and search for their roots.

One of America's leading citizens of Italian origin, Mr Frederick Guardabassi, a prosperous banker, broke the news on the first day of the meeting that President Reagan had appointed him a member of the Christopher Columbus Jubilee Commission. But it fell to Mr Frank Stella, president of the National Italian American Foundation, to make the greatest promise of all. "In 1992 the president of the United States will be an Italian-American."

Peter Nichols



Angela Gore



A Smock of Many Uses

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100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Looks even better on a girl

A girl wearing a man's shirt was a haunting advertising image of the 1960s. It was the start of unisex, the beginning of the big steal from the man's wardrobe that became a seminal fashion theme.

It was also prophetic. For the shirt has taken over the female wardrobe and is the shape of summer dressing. It comes as an unstructured jacket, grows down as a dress, slips over narrow trousers or is dressed up as a three-quarter tunic over a slim skirt.

There are shirts wild and flowered, stripes quiet and narrow; the shirts are served up in fresh white cotton or cut from soft slithers of crushed silk. One factor is constant through all these different patterns and fabrics: the shirt is very big. It does not have to cover you from neck to knees, but it helps if it is curved fore and aft.

The hanging shirt tails that have been a badge of street style for the past year have now been institutionalized by manufacturers who are making shirts with contrast hems or linings to prove that the shirt tails are supposed to be on show.

The overshirt has also been taken up by high fashion and made into an important garment, with padded shoulders and a sharp cut to give it shape and structure.

The most stunning shirts of this season are those of Italian designer Gianfranco Ferré, who has played on the shirt theme to produce elegant squares of shantung and gossamer-light clouds of organza, seamed with architectural precision and given a life and shape of their own. This is the shirt that is worn from day to night, especially for holiday dressing for which the Easter break gives an early taste. Ferré showed the shirts with narrow silk trousers, as well as on their own, and that is how they will be worn by women who revel in casual chic.

The high street shirt is a different story, cut on simple lines out of cotton and at its best fresh off the ironing-board. Katharine Hamnett's deliberately crumpled silk shirts are another side of street style and one that also moves effortlessly into the evening.

The unstructured, unlined jacket, cut like a pyjama top, is another variation of the shirt that can readily fit into a chilly spring. The jacket is often doubled up, so that one shirt goes over the other. Designers are also playing on this by making a shirt jacket with a double layer of fabric on the back and front panels, so that a transparent layer of cotton voile or organza lies on top of the base fabric.

New this summer is the sprouting of viscose and rayon among the natural fibres and a general feel for shimmer and shine rather than matt linen. Viscose is used too for the pyjama trousers that partner the jackets in matching, or deliberately mixed patterns.

For holidays, the shirt is worn day and night, dressed up with the gone-native bead jewellery that seems to be having yet another fashion revival. Or it is worn very simply over bronzed skin to

make the shape of this season's beach cover-up - belted on the hips and bloused, or knotted up at the front.

The original advertising slogan suggested that the shirt looks even better on a man. That could be true of this season's shirts, for the style appears with equal dash in the male wardrobe. The big over-shirt has had a liberating effect on men's summer holiday dressing, for, as every Indian knows, a loose top and unstructured trousers are a cooler kind

of hot-weather dressing than the more traditional body-fitting sports shirt and slacks.

This summer, the Hawaiian print shirt comes second to the bold, primitive prints that look as though they are made from a woodblock and often come just in black on white. These are patterns that make a bold fashion statement - and they look their best on a man. SUZY MENKES has been commended in the Specialist Writer of the Year category of the 1984 British Press Awards.



Left: The perfectly proportioned shirt.

HER Gianfranco

Ferré

architecturally

seamed, square-cut

transparent white

organza shirt £241.

Over a white

curved sun top £52.

White linen trousers.

Also in bright

navy by mid April.

All from

Gianfranco Ferré,

23 Brook Street, W1.

HIS iridescent

cotton fitted shirt

shot with

blue and purple £160.

Matching turn-over

waist trousers £145.

Both by

Jean Paul Gaultier

from Bazaar for Men,

4 South Molton Street,

London W.1.

Below: The pyjama suit.

HER bold black and

white striped

viscose pyjama shirt

and matching

trousers by Sportmax

£103.50.

Over a luscious pink

top £48.50.

From a

selection at Harrods,

Knightsbridge SW1;

Lisa Sterling,

Chester

and Manchester;

Foxy, Aberdeen;

Alicia Kite, Sheffield.

White stud

earrings by Corocraft.

Black and white

spotted lace-ups

from Pied à Terre,

44 Old Bond Street, W1

at Harrods.

His fresh

white cotton piqué

shirt with

detachable collar

£89.50 from

Anthony Kwok

from Way In

at Harrods.

Knightsbridge SW1.

Silver grey

patchwork weave

linen trousers

from Gianni

Versace, 18 New Bond

Street, W1.

Hair by Graham Hamps

at Leonard,

6 Upper Grosvenor

Street W1.

Fashion assistant:

CHRISTINE PAINELL

Photographs by

RICHARD JIMRIE

The great spring cover-up



What do you wear when the spring is chilly and you are not going away for an Easter holiday? The spring coat once seemed as elusive as the first cuckoo. But the three-quarter length jacket, so prominent in the international collections, has given a new lease of life to the lightweight coat.

You can now peel off the heavy trenchcoat, yet keep warmth round the shoulders and body. The new jackets all have wide shoulders, deep roomy armholes that will take an outfit underneath, and the low-slung revers that are part of the current fashion look.

Cool Wool is the latest name given to the between-season clothes that seem to me to be much too thin on the ground in the shops, which are drowning in a sea of summer linens.

New spinning methods are producing finer yarns which can be made up into unstructured, lightweight, pure wool garments. Liberty and Harrods are among several stores selling outfits suitable for an English spring.

Alongside the fine wools are the thicker cottons, which have made the once sunshine-weather fabric suitable for year-round wear. Cotton now comes padded or lined with fake fur.

It also comes proofed, and the three-quarter rain jacket makes an alternative to the long trench mac for the prolonged period of April showers.

Above: Boldly checked three-quarter coat in navy and beige heavy cotton by In-wear £49.95. Left: Cool Wool tailored three-quarter coat in navy, red or cream, by Penny Black £69. Both coats from Fenwick of Bond Street.

Above: Streetwise shirt tails.

HER striped pyjamas in cotton with

blue or pink with white, £34.95.

Willow pattern cotton sweater

in delphinium blue, Wedgwood blue

or peony pink, £32.95. Both from

Laura Ashley, 7-9 Harriet Street

SW1 and branches nationwide.

HIS trellis print overshirt

in black on yellow ochre cotton

by Joe Casely-Hayford £57

from Jones, 77 Kings Road SW3.

Black cotton trousers with back

gusset in multi-striped silk £57.

Also Joe Casely-Hayford from

Joseph Shops, 6c Sloane Street,

16 South Molton Street, Jones,

77 Kings Road SW3. Whistles

branches: Kew of Nottingham.

Right: The double shirt.

HER ice blue damask shirt jacket

with transparent pin-striped

organza back £95, over a big shirt

with organza sleeves £35

and matching poppy trousers.

All by Elaine Chelloner in pale

blue, white and mint green

from Way In at Harrods,

Knightsbridge SW1; Whistles

shops: The Vestry, South Molton

Street W1; Griz, Torquay.

HIS dramatically hand-printed

white cotton tailed shirt £28 and

black and white trousers £29.50.

Both by Lucy Oliva,

Stand B24, Hyper Hyper,

26-40 Kensington High Street W8.

Angela Gore



A Smock of Many Uses

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THE TIMES DIARY

Send for Waite

Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, could face his most dangerous and sensitive mission yet. He is considering stepping in to help negotiate the release of the American hostages held in Lebanon by the pro-Iranian factions. It was revealed at the weekend that the White House has warned that it will face military retaliation if the hostages are put on trial or executed. American intelligence is now being asked to suggest suitable targets for retaliation - a move which the British government would be totally opposed. Waite, who impressed the Americans with his success in securing the release of the British hostages in Libya, was first approached by the family of the Rev Ben Weir, a Presbyterian minister who has been held hostage for about a year. It is believed the extremists have threatened to kill the hostages if anyone attempts to mediate. Waite, who is considering flying to Beirut after he returns from his Australian tour on May 5, said the situation in Lebanon was "very dangerous". "I don't want to jump in with my big feet because that can often make things worse."

Unbearable

Decades of April Fools days and hundreds of phone calls to Mr C. Lion and A. Bear have taken their toll on London Zoo. An answering machine yesterday told callers that if they genuinely wished to get in touch with the zoo they should do so through the operator. The operator told the London Zoo would accept no calls at all until the fateful date had passed.

Wall paper

Why pay more for the *Morning Star*? The April edition of the ACTT union journal tells its readers that thanks to government subsidies, the *Morning Star* costs just 55 pence - about 15p - in East Germany, compared to 30p here. As East German post is also cheap, "you could save nearly 10p a day on having the paper sent from East Berlin to your home in the UK."

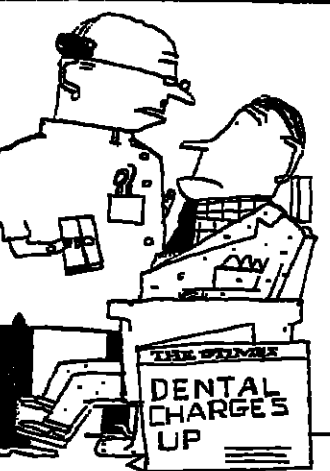
Sorry again

The sisterly love between England's militant feminists and Irish Republicans is over. When the two groups demonstrated together outside Armagh's women's jail recently, Maire McGroarty of Belfast made a fiery speech in which she referred to a description in the *Ulster Journal* of the RUC officers as "rapists, wife-beaters and black bastards". The third sentiment did not greatly appeal to visiting black feminists from London, who deplored Ms McGroarty's language as "racist and deeply offensive". An apologetic Ms McGroarty said she had meant no offence; she had simply chosen the quotation because she could not think of anything else "bad enough" to say about the RUC.

Time to canvass

If my sources are correct, the National Gallery in Scotland will acquire the fabulous *Adoration of the Kings* by Mantegna, which is expected to fetch a auction record of up to £10 million at Christie's on April 19 (Turner's *Seascape* holds the record at £7.3 million). If all goes to plan, the National Gallery - under the new directorship of Manchester's Timothy Clifford - will not buy it immediately but will sit back and allow the Getty Museum to do so. It is hoped that Lord Gownie will in turn refuse an export licence, by which time Clifford will have raised the necessary millions from art funds, supporters and their own reserves. Their deadline? Around three months.

BARRY FANTONI



'Your wallet seems healthy enough, now let's look at your teeth'

Irate

Anglia television journalists meet this week to protest at one of their number being taken off a story about the Moleworth peace camp. A group called Ratepayers Against the Moleworth Settlement requested that John Kiddy, who happens to be a resident of the area, should not cover their delegation to see Michael Heseltine. Instead of sticking up for Kiddy's record of neutral reporting, Anglia bowed to pressure and called in a reporter from holiday to cover the trip. Kiddy is understood to be furious; he is so keen to remain detached that he actually resigned from his parish council when it looked like becoming involved. The row could end up at the Independent Broadcasting Authority, journalists believe. Anglia, meanwhile, insists there is no question of Kiddy being kept off Moleworth stories.

PHS

Michael Prest on the storm clouds gathering over Sudan

Nimeiry's trip of no return?



Nimeiry: after 16 years repression may no longer be enough. Right, police carry out identity checks in Khartoum in the wake of last week's riots

Sudan, Africa's biggest country, faces an upheaval which will determine its direction and the future of western interests in an increasingly sensitive area for the next decade. Barely had President Jafer Mohammed Nimeiry boarded his plane for Washington last week than riots broke out in the capital, Khartoum. If Nimeiry's opponents carry out their threats to intensify resistance to the regime it could be brought to the brink of collapse over the next few days.

The ostensible reason for the riots was sharp increases in the price of bread, sugar and petrol. These increases were made partly at the behest of the western powers, led by the United States, and the International Monetary Fund, who were anxious to see a semblance of financial rectitude restored.

But the demonstrations, which seem to have been widely based, reflect much more: grievances and even desperation stemming from several years of increasingly arbitrary and authoritarian government. They are the culmination of a general discontent which Nimeiry's often ruthless political manipulation has inflamed rather than suppressed.

The hunt fact is that the people of Sudan are starving. Without foreign assistance on a huge scale between four and seven million out of a population of 22 million Sudanese could perish this year. If the harvest is bad again, next year will bring further horrors. Some 80 per cent of the nation's children are wracked by diseases such as dysentery, measles, bilharzia, scurvy and hepatitis. In the war-torn south a sleeping sickness epidemic rages unchecked.

Nimeiry and his diminishing band of apologists have wasted no time in blaming this terrible state of affairs on nature. It is true that some parts of Sudan have received no rain for four years; it is equally uncontestable that traditional patterns of land ownership and methods of cultivation have led to overgrazing and the destruction of vegetation. The consequent advance of the desert may be irreversible in places.

Sudan is a poor country. With a per capita income annually of less than \$400 and with huge areas of its 1 million square miles vulnerable to small fluctuations in rainfall, Sudan needs massive investment in infrastructure and skills before the potential of the Nile can be realized.

People need not starve, however. Drought and famine, severe as they are, have been compounded by a regime which seems to be less and less concerned about the condition of its people. In a country with abundant labour, it is a sign of absurd maldistribution that irrigation ditches should fill with sand.

The civil service, once one of the

best in Africa and the pride of the educated elite who succeeded the British on independence in 1956, has ceased to function effectively. Arbitrary decisions made at the top and the blatant corruption of the circle around Nimeiry have demoralized many Sudanese and driven them overseas. More than 1.5 million are working abroad.

Sudan now groans under external debts of around \$9 billion; its export earnings of \$800 million a year are insufficient to cover repayments. The acute shortage of foreign exchange, officially just enough to cover one month's imports, has strangled virtually every aspect of economic life. Much the most serious in a country this size and with such poor communications is the chronic shortage of fuel.

But Nimeiry, 55 and in poor health, might have survived these problems, self-inflicted as they largely are, by continued repression and blaming external enemies such as Libya and Ethiopia had he not taken the possibly fatal step of introducing Islamic law - Sharia - in 1983. While Sharia is quite popular among Sudan's Muslims, it antagonized Christians and incurred widespread opprobrium for the way it was enforced.

Whatever his motives - and they range from personal devoutness to a

calculated outmanoeuvring of religious opponents such as the Muslim Brotherhood - Nimeiry again brought to the surface the submerged dispute with the South. The people of the southern third of Sudan are mainly African and Muslim. It had been Nimeiry's greatest achievement in 1972 to end a 17-year war in the south.

Today, however, a new guerrilla movement, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, led by John Garang, a former army colonel, holds the balance. It has inflicted heavy defeats on an army denuded of its best officers by Nimeiry's paranoia and denies to the government control of the important oil resources in the south. Construction of the Jonglei canal, intended to irrigate large areas of central Sudan, has also stopped.

All the other opposition groups who now sense that their long wait may be over must do a deal with the SPLM if Sudan is to recover. Garang has said repeatedly that his is not a secessionist movement but a struggle to overthrow Nimeiry. The famine, drought, and administrative collapse which has led to a serious deterioration of law and order in many parts of the country give the opposition their best chance since Nimeiry came to power in a coup 16 years ago.

But Sudan's many opposition elements would be hard put to provide a desperately needed stability. The dangers of disagreement between religious sects, who command more popular allegiance than the liberal politicians, is serious.

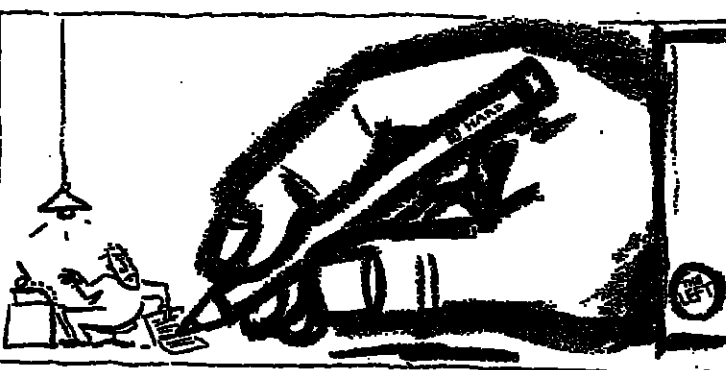
The key will be the army and the police. Their actions will be anxiously watched by the West for whom Sudan, bordering eight other countries and with a Red Sea coast, is geopolitically important. The Americans have given huge amounts of humanitarian aid to Sudan while hoping they can put enough pressure on Nimeiry to mend his ways. The dilemma now is whether to support the regime further, and perhaps risk losing the friendship of his successor.

Nimeiry himself may be hoping to return from Washington to offer a grand gesture of reconciliation, suitably mixed with repression, which will reassert his position. But the danger then is that the respite will be only temporary and Sudan could slowly disintegrate. The centrifugal tendencies in the south and west are strong. What happens in Khartoum over the coming week or so could decide which course Sudan will take.

The author, financial correspondent of The Times, recently visited Sudan.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Judge, jury and executioner of free speech



in their implementation in the face of open contempt from some sections of the membership [I say, do you suppose she means me-I hope so, I'm sure, but I feel that I am bound to pursue my duties according to union rule] demonstrated clearly - as if it needed any more demonstrating! - that none of these harpies has the smallest trace of a sense of humour.

But he who would find the next case funny would have a distinctly macabre understanding of fun. It concerned a reporter on the Middlesex Evening Gazette, Mr Alan Heworth. He wrote a story about an English wife and mother deserted by her African husband, who appears to have been something of a ne'er-do-well. The lady described him in vigorous terms, which Mr Heworth quoted; it was not alleged that he had failed to report her words aright. The complaint arose, again under the Cranks' Charter, on alleged grounds of "racism"; the matter alleged to be racist occurred in the headline (*'Mud-hut romeo made my life misery'*, says heartache mum) and in a comment within the article which called the husband a "jungle goliath", together with a reference to the husband having "charmed" the wife into marriage.

There were the usual irregularities in the laying of the complaint and the conduct of the case, but that is not the greatest scandal. Mr Heworth's colleagues (I have their letter, with its eight signatures) testified that he had not written the words complained of; these had been inserted into his article in the course of its sub-editing. Despite this testimony, which was not contested, and was indeed accepted by the committee which judged the complaint, Mr Heworth was none the less found "guilty" and reprimanded. It is worth drawing attention to the level of the original complaint; Mr Heworth quoted the deserted wife as saying that divorce papers would be difficult to serve "if

he has set up home in a mud hut in Zimbabwe", but not only did the complainant, Mr Thomas Richardson, plainly want censorship of her words as well as Mr Heworth's implied opinions (falsely implied, I must add), he wanted it because "the fact that postal communication to rural areas is unreliable" and "present difficulties beyond those normally experienced in Britain is based on specific historical developments".

Mr Heworth, convicted of "racism" on a complaint about words he had not written, and which nobody in the end maintained that he had written, promptly resigned from the union in disgust. He will now be unable to get a job, however well-qualified for it he may be, on any newspaper which operates an NUJ closed shop; this is the left's hope of censorship and control brought nearer. The only light in this murky is the report by the "judges" that they were "concerned that the complainants appeared to have faced a certain amount of hostility as a result of their decision to pursue the complaint". I am delighted to hear it; the two NUJ members who pursued Mr Richardson's complaint were Miss Gillian Sandford and Miss Berenice Semp.

The last case is the worst. It is that of Miss Sue Reid, a reporter on *The Mail on Sunday*. She wrote an excellent article, during the miners' strike, about a meeting of a group called Barnsley Women Against Pit Closures. It was notably sympathetic to the women, who included Mrs Scargill, and stressed the way in which they had taken an independent initiative in supporting the strike and the strikers.

She was "charged", however, because she had infringed the meeting without disclosing that she was a reporter. Since Mrs Scargill had consistently refused to be interviewed (or indeed to speak to reporters at all), and since in any case Miss Reid wanted to see a spontaneous, not stage-managed,

meeting, she relied on the NUJ's own stated position that subterfuge is justified on a matter of real public interest (which this women's movement certainly was) if the material cannot be obtained otherwise (which it couldn't). The original complainant was a Mrs Marshall, one of the members of the group, and it was then pursued by NUJ member Mr William Blow.

Miss Reid had reckoned without the NUJ's left faction. Subterfuge, it seems, is permitted if it is used against capitalists, bourgeois reactionaries, Thatcherite lackeys and similar *haves humani generis*; but to use it for *lesse-Scargill* is not to be tolerated.

Nor was it, Miss Reid was "reprimanded" and "warned as to [her] future conduct". The proceedings were disgraceful even by the standards the NUJ thinks tolerable for these disciplinary matters. When Miss Reid asked for the hearing to be held in a "neutral" venue, instead of Barnsley, headquarters of the very group she had annoyed, she was told that would be held in Sheffield, headquarters of the NUJ itself. When she asked understandingly that the witnesses from the Barnsley women's group should not be allowed to sit in on the proceedings, but should enter one by one to give their evidence and then leave the room, she was given an absolute assurance that that would indeed be done; the assurance was broken. And in the evening, when Miss Reid, with her legal adviser and her witnesses, went to have a drink, they found in the bar a convivial group who had clearly been there for some time and stayed drinking together for a further half hour: it consisted of two of the three "judges" (judgment in these proceedings is deferred, so they had still to consider their verdict), the "prosecutor", and the NUJ official whose job is to administer, in a strictly neutral capacity, the union's disciplinary proceedings, and who had acted as "clerk of the court" in the hearing earlier in the day.

It is now clear that no member of the NUJ who falls foul of the hard left in the union can expect a fair "trial" if arraigned under Rule 18; indeed, no such member can expect even an imitation of a fair trial, as Miss Reid's case plainly demonstrates. These kangaroo courts are being used as instruments of political intimidation and political censorship, and unless the membership of the NUJ can regain control of their union and rid it of these malpractices and of the Cranks' Charter that makes them possible, they will sooner or later find that freedom of speech has become that freedom's most dangerous enemy.

In the very near future, I shall deal in detail with an NUJ scandal far greater than any of these; the "framing", and subsequent forcing out of office, of the general secretary, Mr Ken Ashton, an honourable man brought down by a political coup intended to clear the way for complete hard-left control of the union. Those who still doubt if that is the object of the Cranks' Charter proceedings I have described will, I predict, change their mind sharply when I present the Ashton story.

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Roger Scruton

Issues more basic than apartheid

A small state can survive only by allying itself, and its allies must be chosen from the few sorry products of human political endeavour. This fact has a special importance now that the world is governed by rhetoric which has the power to titillate the conscience while leaving the intellect untouched. By exciting sentiments of outrage against our friends, the media take a direct route to the individual conscience. And the more their crusades damage our interests, the more presentable is the conscience which inspires and follows them.

It is therefore inevitable that a state like South Africa, which displays her most hideous blemish in the middle of her face, should be denounced so vociferously while her tyrannical neighbours get off, on the whole, scot-free. For South Africa is our friend. In two world wars her people fought and died for our protection. In the global conflict which threatens to engulf us, she alone in the whole continent of Africa could be relied upon to take our side. It is therefore natural to feel guilty about South Africa, in a way that we could never feel guilty about the Soviet Union or China.

Moreover, South Africa offends against the shibboleth of equality and, what is worse, she openly says so. Communism tells us loudly and clearly that it believes in the natural equality of man. In a sense it does: for it believes that all people are equally valueless, equally expendable means to a collective end.

It is probably true that blacks enjoy greater freedom, greater prosperity, greater opportunity and greater peace in South Africa than in most neighbouring countries (this seems to be implied by the constant tide of illegal black immigration). But the blench of apartheid ensures that such virtues will never be considered. Those, like Edward Kennedy, who wash their consciences publicly in the ever abundant stream of rhetoric have found in South Africa too easy a means to put their hearts on display, and will never now be tired of so profitable a pastime.

There is, however, a deeper reason for the assault on South Africa and one which shows that, despite all our abhorrence of apartheid, South Africa is our natural friend.

You can, within limits, speak out against the prevailing oppression. Your voice will be multiplied by the press, by the universities, and by parliamentary discussion. Your rights will be defined in parliament and protected by the courts. The courts will even protect you against the government and when - as frequently happens in the Roman Dutch law conflicts in principle with oppressive legislation, it is the legislation and not the law that is discarded.

As a result, it is worthwhile to abuse South Africa; you might actually achieve something. Your voice is echoed internally and answered by those in power. By contrast you can shout at the Soviet Union till you are blue in the face and you will not change it in the smallest particular. If any Soviet citizen is rash enough to take up

your cry he is at once deprived of legal protection, and harshly silenced.

An important question lies before us, and the future of the western alliance depends upon the answer. What do we in the West stand for? What is it, besides the fear of Soviet domination, that unites us?

American diplomacy argues that we are united in defence of democracy, and that what we mean by "democracy" is not the paper democracy of the Soviet empire, but the real thing. But if the real thing means American-style elections how can we stand beside South Africa, Chile and Egypt, and how can we set our face against Nicaragua where, according to one version of events, the Sandinistas' power has been endorsed by a democratic election?

Such questions suggest that the standard American theory of the western alliance is too parochial, too little informed by a sense of history, to be persuasive to anyone who is not American. To put the matter bluntly, democracy has no intrinsic value: it is not an end, but a means.

Democracy is valuable primarily as a means to responsible power - power answerable to those who do not possess it. Where responsible government exists, the exercise of power is tempered by the norms of personal association. To insist on democratic election as the sole and sufficient standard of political legitimacy is to forget both human nature and human history. It is to forget, for example the election which brought Hitler to power, and which extinguished responsible government in Germany.

If governments turn judges out of office when the courts displease them, they cease to be answerable to the powerless. Hence, responsible government is possible only where there is a rule of law. It was the incipient lawlessness of Hitler's government, its contempt for forms, procedures and judicial limitations, that made it so dangerous a member of the community of nations. This defect was not remedied by the fact that the German people once voted it into office.

Responsible government also requires legal opposition, the right to express dissenting views, and the unconstrained discussion of such views in Parliament. Those fundamental institutions have existed in England, on and off, since the reign of Edward II, and without them democratic elections are of no significance. Finally, responsible government is representative, and it is in this feature that South Africa falls so lamentably short.

There is a tendency to confuse representation with election. But election conducted in an atmosphere of fear and demagoguery will rarely lead to representative government. Only in certain circumstances do the interests of the powerless afflict the consciences and govern the actions of those in power. It is because we endeavour to approach those conditions that the members of the western alliance stand together. And it is for the same reason that we have a common enemy.

The author is editor of The Salisbury Review.

moreover... Miles Kington

Have you seen this policeman?

Several new developments have been reported in the extraordinary kidnapping of the controversial Bishop of Tyne and Wear, Kevin Witherforce.

Readers will remember that the bishop vanished three weeks ago, while en route to address a TUC meeting on "The Bargaining Strategy of the Twelve Apostles". His kidnappers say they will return him if the police can provide unshakable evidence that he exists. Inspector Hadrian, in charge of the case, has been unable to do this and has had to call in the SAS, The Sophistry and Argument Squad, to talk to the kidnappers.

Over the weekend top SAS negotiator Captain "Plato" Wilkinson has been trying a new tack. He decided to shift the onus of proof to the other side and sent a message to the bishop's captors reading: "Give us satisfactory evidence that you have got the bishop alive and well, or we will call off our nationwide hunt". But after a pause the reply came: "Impossible. That would amount to proof that the bishop is alive."

Captain Wilkinson then tried a softer approach with a new message: "We would be satisfied with evidence that you have got the bishop half-alive and not very well." To which the reply came: "You won't get any evidence from us. Provide it yourself. Signed, The Kidnappers."

Wilkinson then wrote back to say that evidence was provided by the very signature. They admitted they were kidnappers. They must therefore have someone in captivity. It must be the bishop. Therefore the bishop existed. QED. So could they please have the bishop back? But the reply came: "Sorry to disappoint you, but Kidnapper is an old Norman surname meaning goat-handler. Yours, The Kidnappers."

At a press conference yesterday Inspector Hadrian said they had run through on the police computer the details and whereabouts of all known living bishops and ex-bishops. When asked what the point of this was, he said there was none in particular, but it was the sort of thing that sounded very good at press conferences. Another thing that sounded very good at press conferences was an announcement that the police were going to stage a dramatic reconstruction of the crime, which he duly announced.

Another fresh development in the

case has been the holding of large protest meetings by unemployed graduates, who see the kidnapped bishop as a symbol of hope. As bishops are never out of a job or sacked, it is usually difficult for the unemployed to identify with them. But a kidnapping is a sort of symbolic redundancy, and the bishop, who has always been a critic of the Government, has suddenly become a hero for the young. They are, says Inspector Hadrian, the best-conducted protest meetings he has ever attended.

"What a question like, 'Do you think Mrs Thatcher has ordered the kidnapping?' Whereas the normal mob would yell back 'Yes!', this lot shouts back in unison, 'It is an attractive theory, but do not let us get carried away by our subjective feelings on this subject!'. It's quite scary how bright they are, really. Wish we had a few like them in the police force."

The bishop's family has remained calm throughout the crisis - indeed, Mrs Witherforce seems almost unaware of the absence of her husband, who is often away on trips in sunny climes. Last weekend she held a big dinner party for friends and next weekend she is going on holiday in the Mediterranean for a fortnight.

"Normally", says Inspector Hadrian, "this is what people do just after they've bumped their husbands off, but in the case of the bishop's wife I think she is just getting on with life without her husband, as she always has done. I went to the dinner party, as a matter of fact, and must be the bishop. Therefore the bishop existed. QED. So could they please have the bishop back? But the reply came: 'Sorry to disappoint you, but Kidnapper is an old Norman surname meaning goat-handler. Yours, The Kidnappers.'

And there matters stood until last night, when the police proceeded with the reconstruction of the evening the bishop vanished. A police constable in plain clothes set out to drive the 20 miles taken by the bishop on that fateful day. Bafflingly, he too failed to arrive and the police now have a vanished policeman on their hands as well. What exactly is the mystery behind the two disappearances? How serious is Inspector Hadrian? How the handsome Mrs Witherforce? Will he follow her to the Mediterranean to see if she leads him to the bishop? You can find out only in *Moreover*, next week.

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TRUST ON THE CAMPUS

Universities need freedom of thought. Our tradition gives them freedom of organisation too: the universities are distinguished by their internal self-government. But this freedom - to expend public money - carries heavy responsibility, which academics are not always ready to recognise. Their freedom relies on public trust. This in turn rests on the belief that academic discipline means what it says so that universities within their purposes are efficiently run.

Yesterday's report by Sir Alex Jarrett's steering committee for efficiency studies punctures that trust. It is a disarming document, raising serious doubts about the willingness of university academics to discipline themselves in a managerial sense. There were common room cynics who hoped by putting Jarrett under the aegis of the Vice-Chancellor's committee to avoid the rigours of a full Rayner scrutiny. All credit then to the university men who approved this thoroughgoing critique of their own decision making processes; all credit to Sir Robin Ibbes and Mr Ian Beesley who have used the forensic tools of the Whitehall Efficiency Unit to cut through the luxuriant growth of the academic committee structure.

Universities, without sacrificing one jot of their independence of mind or critical faculty could be better run. Their internal

financial controls are inadequate, their management style 19th century. Vice-Chancellors, for so long university officers without a role, should become chief executives (the best already are) and not because management fashion dictates but because universities are ducking hard decisions about closing departments and the internal allocation of resources. Jarrett involves sacrifice of the pretence that university senates are widely management bodies. It demands the demystification, perhaps the abolition, of the university grants committee. It demands that academics start to measure themselves and their laboratory technicians, bursars and cleaners and weed out the inefficient. It demands that universities take action to restrict tenure. The Jarrett programme will surely make university life less comfortable and, more demanding, not only in an intellectual sense. Such a programme will doubtless appear harsh to those universities which despite the 1981 round of spending cuts are still cloistered in their approach to this decade's fiscal reality.

Yet the universities really have no choice except to embrace the Jarrett managerial programme with enthusiasm. The universities have a good case for public support; they have a good case for holding the government to its promise after

1981 to provide level funding. They are a national asset, institutions which ought to be at the leading edge of the nation's economic and attitudinal adaptation. But such a case cannot be convincing while there lingers a taint of sloppiness, of cowardice, in the face of managerial necessity. Treasury parsimony will be successfully challenged only when the universities' house is in better order.

But Jarrett is quite rightly about more than campus organisation. Effective financial management has been beggared by the stop-go of successive public expenditure rounds. There can be nothing wrong with the universities taking a share of public expenditure reduction, even if this leads to the closure of institutions. But there is something wrong with the wilful, disconnected nature of the government's approach to higher education. Where is the framework for student numbers, subject balance, the promotion of research? The government's long-promised Green Paper is still locked in the bowels of the Department of Education, yet without it the Jarrett programme cannot be implemented. Efficiency depends on the universities knowing in broad measures where the public wants them to go. The government should not shirk its own managerial task.

IN HOLY WEEK II

Public opinion polls on religion need to be taken with a pinch of salt. Nevertheless there ought to be some substance in their repeated finding that almost half the population claims to go to church at least once a year. Church attendance figures at Easter show an upwards flick of the curve. Without much fear of contradiction it may safely be asserted that some half the population will at least think about attending a place of worship this coming Sunday, even if not all act on the thought.

Plainly such people are looking for something or believe that they are. Life is not complete without the occasional proximity of the sacred, to set the world in its proper context, and their life in a wider framework. But it is a narrow reading of the Gospels which sees no more in them than that. The churches, in their desperation for members, may fairly be accused of reducing the demands of the Christian religion to such modest and manageable proportions. They neglect to insist that the universal challenge of Christianity, as indeed of other world religions, is a call to holiness. Uncomfortably, there is no authority whatever for leaving the pursuit of holiness to a delegated few on behalf of the many, for in that way, everyone can avoid the challenge.

The idea of holiness needs to be rescued from misunderstandings. It is too easily confused with goodness, as if there were nothing more to religion than ethics, and a weekly pious feeling of togetherness. All the great

religions, and all their spiritual masters, speak of holiness as something far deeper. There is a considerable measure of agreement among them as to its parameters: a certain kind of humility, a certain kind of poverty, a certain kind of detachment, and a certain kind of consciousness. This broad convergence on the nature of holiness strongly suggests that it is an objective quality, a phenomenon rooted in the nature of human personality itself. Zen masters and Christian monks rejoice to find how much they share common ideas of the spiritual life, far apart though they may be in doctrines and dogmas. When teachers of the spiritual life in other religions first encounter the teachings of Jesus Christ they claim him as a fellow-master, and often hail him as one of the very finest.

The other mark of holiness is its attractiveness. A saint is himself a sermon, his very personality saying more than many words could say. There is a generosity, cheerfulness, openness - in short, pure sweetness - about such people that makes them magnets for mankind. But it is not softness: a holy person has become more distinctively himself, more intensely alive, than the rest of us, and this liberates rather than inhibits the force of personality. Holiness is about moving towards the ideal version of ourselves. Religion is about how we could achieve this, if we had the courage.

The churches, in their encounters with visiting strangers and in their regular nourishment of the

routine attenders, have no need to hide these goals as if they were too shocking to be proclaimed aloud. But they have a primary duty before this, which is to live themselves as if they believed in it. Most of the things churches can do, other more secular bodies can do too; what they have to do, which only they can do, is to be holy. Their internal priorities do not always show forth this as their chief concern: sometimes indeed they seem to have become so bored with it that any distraction will do.

Strategies for this and strategies for that would be a little less necessary if there was a strategy for holiness.

This Holy Week series of leading articles will not stray far from this theme, for the last week of the mortal life of Jesus is itself a paradigm of the vocation to holiness. He continued to teach, but the emphasis had shifted from what he said to what he did, and what happened to him. It has a truth at the level of allegory. It is both instantly accessible, and deeply mysterious; and in spite of the suffering and anguish with which the week is so deeply stained, it is a story of extraordinary fascination and magnetism.

Everyone who is to some degree stirred by it, or interrupted in the course of the flow of the days and weeks to stop for a moment and reflect, is responding to an inner spiritual appetite which is drawn towards holiness as a stomach towards food. May the churches not let them down.

CHAOS IN THE SUDAN

For years now Sudan has been sinking further and further into chaos. The hopeful plateau of the mid-1970s, when the north-south civil war had seemingly been settled by a statesmanlike president who broke with his original communist allies and stretched out the hand of reconciliation to his Muslim opponents, and when the land was supposedly being irrigated with Arabian petrodollars to make it "the bread-basket of the Arab world", has been left far behind.

President Nimeiry, who came to power by a military coup in 1969, has never brought himself to establish anything like a genuine democracy in Sudan or to share power with any other political leader enjoying genuine mass support. Instead he has presided over an increasingly corrupt and inefficient administration and his economic policies - often ill-conceived and invariably ill-executed - have combined with climatic disasters to produce widespread famine and, in many parts of the country, a breakdown of law and order.

His statesmanlike talents have degenerated into mere political virtuosity, manifested in a series of coups de theatre which have succeeded in prolonging his hold on power but lack any discernible purpose beyond that, and which too often have simply stored up more trouble, a little further down the road. His clumsy attempt at divide-and-rule tactics in the south, his bid

for popular support in the north through the enforcement of Islamic law, his constant invocation of the threat of Libyan subversion or attack to extract more aid and weapons from the West, his sudden waves of arrests directed unpredictably against different political groups - all of these have sooner or later rebounded against him, and he now faces a remarkably broad front of opposition stretching from Southern Christians through the leftist nationalist Democratic Unionist Party to the Mahdists and the Muslim Brotherhood, and including virtually the entire professional middle class of the country - not excepting, it seems, at least a part of the police and the armed forces.

Today, while the President himself, in Washington, pleads desperately for continued support from the Reagan administration and the International Monetary Fund, in Khartoum his remaining supporters, formally organized by the Sudanese Socialist Union (notionally the channel of popular participation in the regime, in fact long since an empty shell) but actively encouraged and no doubt financed, courtesy of the President's Western and Arab backers, by the security police, will try to pre-empt the march on the palace planned by the opposition for tomorrow with a massive counter-demonstration of their own. Presumably what is intended is something like de Gaulle's spectacular comeback

in Paris after the "events" of May 1968. But the pampered and bored France of the 1960s is hardly to be compared with the starving and angry Sudan of the 1980s, and is unlikely to be so easily pacified. President Nimeiry is in one of his tightest spots yet.

He has for long been an embarrassing, yet seemingly indispensable, ally of the West faced with the mischief-making of Colonel Gaddafi in that part of Africa and the Soviet influence in Ethiopia. Through Sudan was mounted the recovery of Chad from Colonel Gaddafi's protégés by President Hissène Habre. Through Sudan must go any help to Eritrean and Tigrayan fighters resisting the tyranny of the Dergue. Through Sudan the Falasha Jews were rescued, and into Sudan have come the millions of famine-stricken Ethiopian refugees. Anyone trying to feed them has to be on at least polite terms with the government in Khartoum. And if support is withdrawn from that government, one can never be sure that what follows will not be even worse. Yet if the coalition of "axis" that President Nimeiry has succeeded in creating could prove ready to become a coalition of positive support for a programme of desperately needed reforms, that would be no less in the interest of the West than of the suffering Sudanese people themselves. Opportunity is there, but not yet the proof.

Iraqi questions on gas victims

From the Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq

Sir, Under the misleading heading of "Iraq's use of mustard gas is confirmed" (March 27) your report states that the US State Department "avoided accusing Iraq of using chemical weapons, but officials, who asked not to be quoted, said intelligence analysts had no doubt Iraq was using them."

There are a number of puzzling aspects of this matter which appear to require further investigation. Why, for example, should a regime with an appalling human rights record, a regime which has tortured and executed thousands of its citizens on the flimsiest of pretexts and which has sent 10-year-old children into battle and almost certain death as human mine-sweepers as Iran has done, suddenly send 33 persons whom you describe as "purported victims of the attacks" to Europe for medical treatment? Furthermore, were the injuries sustained on Iraqi or Iranian territory?

On March 14 last year British journalists who attempted to gain information about "three young men said to be suffering from chemical wounds sustained in the Gulf war" and sent to London for medical treatment by Iran "learned only the names and approximate ages of the patients" after an hour of questioning (*Daily Telegraph*, March 15, 1984).

Under the heading "Khmeini has been preparing for chemical warfare since 1980", the French magazine, *Vendredi*, *Samedi Dimanche*, published statements purportedly made by an Iranian doctor who had worked at a Tehran hospital but had left Iran after treating a large number of men suffering from very severe burns sustained as the result of an explosion at the Marif-Desht plant in Iran.

According to the doctor, the Iranians decided to utilise this occurrence for propaganda purposes by stating that the men were soldiers who had been injured by Iraqi chemical attacks, at a time when the course of the war was going badly for Iran (*VSD*, March 29, 1984).

History seems to be repeating itself now that Iran is suffering defeats again. Instead of continuing diversionary tactics, should Iran not be following Iraq's example of attempting to bring the war to an end?

Yours faithfully,
WAHBI AL-QARAGHULI,
EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ,
21 Queen's Gate, SW7,
London W2.

Staff-room discipline

From the Rev. A. Graham Heller

Sir, You speak of years of managerial inertia in education and advocate more rigorous management. Your leader (March 19) makes a fair point, but it may be worth considering the losses as well as the gains.

In the past teachers have been treated as partners in education with a considerable degree of self-regulation, as is common with many professions. Under such management they have often gone beyond the call of duty and have been ready to carry through sweeping structural and curriculum changes without any evident sign of inertia.

Many extra duties have been undertaken in recent years, save only when these would prevent any respite in an intensive working day. When in dispute they rarely took action that would affect children's essential education.

You ask for a new style of management - perhaps more akin to that of industry. Few teachers and "teachers' unions have resisted the discipline of further assessment, but it is easy to see that quality control is harder to achieve in an area where personal relationships are all-important and it is difficult to be sure where the full authority of management should rest.

If we do move nearer factory-style management with a tightly-drawn contract on teachers' expectations to have a guaranteed lunch break, overtime payments and comparable pay to the private sector?

Will you also bear in mind that many teachers will reduce their extra commitments to those required by the employer and, when in dispute, will be more likely to pursue full strike action? A sense of vocation is not a commonplace of the industrial workforce.

Yours sincerely,
A. GRAHAM HELLER,
Marshall House,
Marden,
Hereford,
March 19.

Greek elections

From Professor Nicos Devletoglou

Sir, Following the election and formal installation of a new President in Greece - amazingly described as a "triumph for democracy" by Mr Andreas Papandreu - the way is suddenly clear for the Greek Prime Minister to go to the couple, banishing the popular slogan of curtailing the power of the President on the grounds that he is not elected directly by the people.

Papandreu is now free to conduct his elections as he pleases under his massive party-controlled state machinery and when he pleases. Further manipulating the electoral law by introducing proportional representation, to the unconcealed delight of the communists, his victory with the communists will be a foregone conclusion.

If, under the blazing lights of national television, Papandreu had the nerve to face millions of Greeks and, indeed, within Parliament itself - to conduct in blatant pattern his rigged presidential election, one can well imagine the extent to which the

Putting technology in perspective

From Professor D. M. MacDowell

Sir, The article by Lord Young of Gifford (March 26) about what he calls "our own cultural revolution" is worrying. I am not disturbed by his conclusion, "The next century will not be like the last"; no century is ever the same as its predecessor. But precedents for cultural revolutions imposed by governments are not encouraging, and the reasoning behind this one appears to be muddled and inadequate.

Lord Young is pleased that more students are pursuing technical subjects, because "we need to inculcate enthusiasm and enterprise". But these are qualities of character; there is not the slightest reason to think that changing the subjects in the curriculum will make a boy or girl enterprising.

He tells us that the purpose of the technical courses is to prepare young people for work. But the most important benefit of technology is that it reduces work: it enables one man to do what many men did before. Hence Lord Young thinks there will be in Britain by the end of this century?

The number ought to be small; if it is not small, the technology will

have been a failure. Even now you report (front page, March 27) that there is a growing unemployment problem among trained doctors and dentists. This should serve as a warning against putting too many people through specialized vocational courses.

In fact, the Government has chosen precisely the wrong time for this particular policy. As work diminishes and leisure increases, general education should take priority over vocational training, and intellectual subjects over mechanical ones.

Lord Young is glad to think that "we have more young people today who understand computer Basic than French". If that is true, it is deplorable. Only a limited number of people need to use computers, but the world would benefit immeasurably if everyone acquired some understanding of another people's modes of thought. Is the Government trying to make us a nation of chauvinists and philistines?

Yours faithfully,
D. M. MACDOWELL,
Department of Greek,
University of Glasgow,
8 Lilybank Gardens,
Glasgow.

Protecting the weak

From Mr N. J. Long

Sir, The Chairman of the GLC Housing Committee is correct in his assertion (March 25) that "Where rents seem low... the condition of the property invariably explains the rent officer's judgement."

As a former rent officer I can confirm that the Rent Acts certainly afford some protection to those living in poor conditions who might otherwise be exploited by being required to pay excessive rents. However, the same - fair rent - system tends to be rigid in application, with the effect that tenants living in good conditions do not necessarily pay more for greater benefit.

Often the difference between rents for similar properties and unimproved properties is too small. Under the present system there is little incentive - by way of increased return - for the landlord to improve the condition of his property. In addition, the mechanism for obtaining the benefit of any increase is slow and cumbersome.

The fair rent provisions in the

Rent Act 1965 were relevant to conditions 20 years ago; those same provisions, slightly modified, remain in effect today. Is the system still relevant?

I believe it is not. The fair rent system is probably relevant as a regulator for housing association rents and for a limited number of those in the private sector. It is no longer relevant, under the present criteria, for the bulk of private sector lettings and particularly for those properties with higher rateable values (of, say, over £500 in Greater London).

Deregulation is overdue. I cannot agree with Tony McBrearty that the effect would be a drop in the number of lettings available. I believe many landlords would be more prepared to let. Also, the "shorthold" tenancy would become more attractive to London landlords.

Such measures would surely be one small step on the way to providing more accommodation for those desperately in need.

Yours faithfully,
N. J. LONG,
58 Crescent Lane, SW4,
March 25.

Diminishing rights

From Mr Alan Gost

Sir, The Prosecution of Offences Bill should remove from police the primary controls of whom, how and when to prosecute. Unfortunately an alliance with the "independent prosecutor" may strengthen and keep the "family" links evident in many of the interventions of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Juveniles' and adults' rights to formal court hearings with proper representation are being reduced by the fashion for cautioning, often on the spot, or within hours of the offence, with the crisis and anxiety pushing the accused to confess and accept the caution, which becomes citable in future hearings.

The Scottish welfare-based re-

porter and hearing system has its devotees, such as the Association of Directors of Social Services. The "let's-all-sit-round-the-table and chat about it" approach can veil a system loaded against the accused without the protection of the court, representation and, in adult cases at least, publicity.

Privacy, informality, welfare-based set-ups can be less pressured for the defendant. They can also drug him or her into acceptance of the kindly officials, and their decisions.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN GOST,
Director of Social Services,
London Borough of Barnet,
Directorate of Social Services,
1331 High Road,
Whetstone, N20.

Defending the police

From Mr A. E. Leaman

Sir, Your Legal Affairs Correspondent (March 15) quotes Professor Gifford Williams' opinion that because of the Attorney General's guidelines on prosecutions and the police the guilty, and in particular, "corrupt and vicious policemen are not brought to book when ordinary people would be". Is this, in my experience at least, wholly untrue.

In fact I have found during the past 26 years, in which time I have defended many dozens of policemen on offences ranging from careless driving through to serious assaults and allegations of corruption, that the Director of Public Prosecutions, when considering whether to prosecute a police officer or not, leans far more heavily on that class of society than on ordinary mortals. Time and time again I have found myself charged where I am certain that if the evidence had related to non-police officers, the powers-that-be would have decided not to take action for lack of evidence. I am not alone in this. I am sure. Every police officer is aware that he is more likely to be prosecuted on the balance of evidence than an ordinary person.

I have always felt that this must be due to the Director always being conscious that the great British public is looking over his shoulder; if this is so, then unfortunate though it may be for police officers, it is probably in the end a good thing for the public.

To suggest that the contrary is true has, in my long experience, never been borne out by the facts. Whatever the reasons for Professor Williams' theory, the quicker the truth knocks it on the head the better for all concerned.

Yours faithfully,
A. E. LEAMAN,
38 Queen Square,
Bristol,
Avon,
March 18.

Setting limits in Africa

From Professor Emeritus J. H. Fremlin

Sir, I agree with everything you said in your editorial on March 25. But there is a vital commission. Over the centuries past the population of Africa has been limited by disease, famines and fighting to a level that could - most of the time - be fed. None of these limitations is now tolerable.

Surely it is essential now to make knowledge of and the means for family limitation (or family spacing as Mr Mugabe sensibly describes it) available cost-free in all of the areas desperately needing the measures for improving food supply that you propose.

Yours etc,
J. H. FREMLIN,
46 Vernon Road,
Edgbaston,
Birmingham,
March 25.

ON THIS DAY

APRIL 2 1812

The Peninsular War was fought by British, Spanish and Portuguese armies against the French, 1808-14. Marshal Soult had captured Badajoz in March 1811, and it was not until the following year that English troops under Wellington were able to retake the town.

"BULLETIN"

"Dispatches have been received from the East of WELLINGTON, dated the 25th March.

"The Lord invested Badajoz on the 16th, and broke ground on the following day, forming his first parallel within two hundred yards of the outwork called Le Picotina. Lord WELLINGTON conducts the siege in person, with the third, fourth and light divisions, upon the left of the River. "Sir THOMAS GRAHAM crossed the Guadiana on the 16th, with three divisions of infantry, and two brigades of cavalry, and marched upon Santa Cruz and Valverde, where he met Sir ROWLAND HILL, with two divisions, and a brigade of cavalry, moved upon Merida, where he made some prisoners.

"These movements induced General DROUOT to retreat from Villafraña to Homachos, to preserve his communication with Gen. DANCAN'S division stationed at Llerena.

"Upon the 19th a sortie was attempted by the garrison of Badajoz, 2,000 men pushed out against the right flank of our work, but were immediately driven in with considerable loss by Major-General BOWEN. In this affair General FLETCHER'S Aide-de-Camp, Captain CURTIS, was killed, and Lieut.-General FLETCHER, was slightly wounded. Since the commencement of the operations, the loss of the Allies has been about 150 men killed and wounded.

"There was no general movement of the enemy upon the side of Ciudad Rodrigo so late as the 17th of March; but two of the three divisions of Marmonte's army, which had been upon the Tago, had moved through the mountains in the direction of Valladolid.

"The rains had been very heavy for the last three days."

"When taken a view of the country which is the scene of these operations, will discover how great and important they are. Lord WELLINGTON at Badajoz with the besieging army under his immediate direction, and Generals GRAHAM and Hill at Santa Marta and Merida, respectively. The Spaniards cannot now, we think, esteem that we are hazarding little for their freedom and happiness. If providence but favour our efforts with success, and they make similar and simultaneous moves in their respective spheres, we hope to see the fairest part of our country again free from the hand of its perfidious enemy, and the invaders obliged to retire for shelter. But if they fail - which we trust they will not - still we have performed our duty, both to them and to ourselves. One is an adventure of that magnitude to provoke the exertions of all the French Generals to prevent the achievement thereof; and while they fly to preserve PHILIPPO and his garrison from being our prey, the rest of Spain must be free from their presence, but should we succeed, in spite of their endeavours then, are we from henceforth, masters of the field, at least against the hostile force which there now is upon it. If they dare not attack, or cannot defeat us, while we have the siege of Badajoz in progress, we shall be enabled to maintain, they cannot attack us with the hope of victory any where. Their master must dispatch fresh armies to perish in the execution of his sanguinary war."

And let not any one say, when the enemy besieged and took this place, we attached less consequence to its fall. They did not attach it (as we do) with armies hanging around them, deemed adequate, in their aggregate to subdue the whole Peninsula. There is an army before Cadix, and an army at Seville; there are armies at Madrid, in Valencia and on the side of Ciudad Rodrigo - all of them able to reach the place in a shorter time than that in which it was surrounded. It is not, therefore, the capture of Badajoz, but the daring circumstances under which the siege is attempted, that we think of such importance. Lord WELLINGTON thereby challenges all the French in Spain to attempt its rescue, because attempts within all their reach "if failing they inhibit," then must it indeed be said that he has failed them all, but if they succeed in raising the siege, still we have relieved Spain. Our own apprehension is that a severe and bloody conflict will ensue.

Yours faithfully,
IVOR SMITH-CAMERON,
25 The Chase,
Clapham Common, SW4.

From Canon Ivor Smith-Cameron
Sir, On the front page of today's Times (March 27) I read that the young jobless were angered by their meeting with Mrs Thatcher because they were suffering the indignities of being out of work, and next to that item that the salary of the chairman of BP has risen from £183,334 to £241,547. Is this the obscenity of the day?

Yours sincerely,
IVOR SMITH-CAMERON,
25 The Chase,
Clapham Common, SW4.

Directors' pay

From Canon Ivor Smith-Cameron
Sir, On the front page of today's Times (March 27) I read that the young jobless were angered by their meeting with Mrs Thatcher because they were suffering the indignities of being out of work, and next to that item that the salary of the chairman of BP has risen from £183,334 to £241,547. Is this the obscenity of the day?

Yours sincerely,
IVOR SMITH-CAMERON,
25 The Chase,
Clapham Common, SW4.

Motherly rebuke

From Mrs D. A. Potts

Sir, Lady Warnock's sympathy for working mothers (*Spectrum*, March 21) is touching. Did she, in her brief flirtation with real school life, see the Oxford High School largely as a baby-sitting service? Could there be other reasons for sending one's children to school? Is it even possible that non-working mothers mind about striking teachers?

Whatever the rights and wrongs of industrial action may be, the interests of working mothers are totally irrelevant.

Yours faithfully,
DORIANE POTTS,
74 Staunton Road,
Headington, Oxfordshire.

Brave face on it

From Baroness H. de Vivenot

Sir, Is not age purely relative? At 78 I cannot pretend to be anything but old, yet my last surviving aunt at 104 contemptuously dismisses me as a mere child.

Yours etc,
HERMINE DE VIVENOT,
The Flat,
Aughton House,
Collingbourne Kingston,
Marlborough,
Wiltshire,
March 24.

THE ARTS

Galleries

Urgent visions of a 'lost leader'

The Political Paintings of Merlyn Evans

Tate

Merlyn Evans: Seven Paintings
New Art Centre

Augustus Lunn
Michael Parkin

Though the making of art is supposed to be such an essentially individualistic business, it is a curiously unprofitable situation for an artist ever to be odd man out. Take the case of Merlyn Evans, who died in 1973 at the age of 63, and whose work is now, for no particular reason, being celebrated with one of the Tate's smaller but still significant shows, *The Political Paintings of Merlyn Evans* (until June 2), and an exhibition of seven later abstract paintings at the New Art Centre (until April 20), not to mention a curiously ill-timed display of his graphic work at the Royal College of Art which finished, maddeningly, last weekend.

The most obvious thing about Evans is that he is not really like anybody else. Or, to be more precise, there is only one other artist his some-times calls to mind, and that is Wyndham Lewis, almost as much of a loner as himself. At least at the outset of his career the explosive Lewis, while busily antagonizing everyone he could, did belong to the Vorticist group and therefore lent himself to convenient pigeon-holing. Evans never enjoyed the advantage of even so much protective colouring. As a young painter in Glasgow he was something of a juvenile prodigy by virtue of the crystalline precision of his draughtsmanship, which he exercised mainly on landscape and still-life, and which may be seen even in a group of later portrait drawings included in the Tate show. But already in the early Thirties he was moving towards his own highly personal form of abstraction, which had little or nothing to do with the landscape-based abstraction of the contemporary St Ives school. And to make matters worse, in terms of public recognition for his work, in 1938 he despaired of finding a market

in London and took a teaching post in South Africa, whence he returned in 1945, after a spell in the South African army, to exhibit in London, even more confusingly, as a South African artist.

Nearly all the key works among what are now dubbed his "political" paintings belong to the South African years. But curiously enough there seem to be no local references: the nearest Evans comes in subject-matter is *The Looters* of 1940, which was referred to by the artist to the Italian invasion of Abyssinia in 1936. Other paintings of around this time allude to the Nazi-Soviet pact of 1939, the Quisling government in Norway, Hitler as "the Beast" and similar specifically European concerns.

Though the question has to be asked, how would we know if Evans had not carefully told us? In what sense is this truly political art, when Evans apparently regarded it all as abstract? That all depends on how rigorously you separate political art from propaganda, and how far you insist on recognizable visual reference. It is very clear as soon as you enter the exhibition at the Tate that here is an artist who felt strongly, from the mid-Thirties, that something very sinister was going on all round him. Since we know the dates, we can reasonably imagine what that was for ourselves. Also, if we compare Evans's characteristic semi-abstracted figures, suggestive of insects in their armour-like carapace, with Lewis's very similar figures from the same era, we can at once recognize fear and distaste in Evans's, while Lewis's, though cruel and inhuman, seem often imbued with a strong element of the heroic, as the world's self-appointed Enemy would see them.

It is still arguable whether this makes the paintings truly political. But there is no denying their power as images of generalized unease. Evans has an astonishingly rich, full, concrete imagination. We do not need to be able to identify *The Chess Players* in the picture of 1940 specifically with Hitler and Stalin, coldly dismembering Poland, in order to feel that these two robot-like figures with globular heads that seem to be all teeth are evil, and that their game must be far from a harmless philosophical pastime. Nor does the title of *The Conflict* (also 1940) tell us anything we would not gather anyway from the mysterious confrontation of the two pre-historic shapes, all spikes and spines and sharp edges. Obvi-



Vague but unmistakable menace in Evans's *Vertical Crustacean* of 1930

ously the special and particular political circumstances of the Munich years must have focused and intensified Evans's feelings of discomfort and distaste, though if we look even at one of the earliest pieces in the show, *Vertical Crustacean* of 1930, we find the same spiky shapes, the same feeling of vague menace, which should tell us that, even then, this was hardly a sunny optimism we are dealing with.

The cut-off date for the Tate show is 1952, and the latest significant painting is *The Execution* of 1945-46, said to be inspired by the death of Mussolini (and certainly the thing hanging upside-down in the middle strongly suggests that). The earliest painting in the New Art Centre show is *Conflict No 3* of 1958-59, and the latest, *Black, Yellow, Red, Green*, dates from 1972. As the titles indicate, Evans's art got more abstract as he got older, but without ever losing its overtones of menace: *E Forms* and *Key Form*, both from around 1967, may well, as the artist said, concentrate "on the expressive possibilities inherent in pure silhouette", but the reason the silhouette is so expressive is that it summons up wily-nilly uncomfortable notions of crab-claws

and insect mandibles. The consistency of vision and feeling is very evident.

What we need now is a complete retrospective to show us the entire development of Evans's extraordinary talent and confirm (or deny) that he was the "lost leader" some have tried to see in him - the artist who, if he had been around Britain during the war years, might have shown the rest how to combine the political urgency of the AIA with the heavily charged emotion of the Neo-Romantics and produce the powerfully committed art which was otherwise at that time conspicuous by its absence.

Quite possibly it would never have occurred to Evans to be that sort of a leader anyway: one always suspects that such determined swimming against the tide must be some kind of deliberate, if unconscious, choice. We can feel quite certain that Augustus Lunn, the other possibly major British painter offered for rediscovery at present (Michael Parkin Gallery, until April 13), would never have seen himself as a leader: he always seems to have been content to follow his own line at his own pace, and if anything about his career is deliberate it would surely be his choosing to stay

out of the limelight, as a teacher and restorer and contributor to group shows along with much more famous figures in the tempera revival, such as Edward Wadsworth, John Armstrong and Maxwell Armfield. It must be significant that this, at the age of 80, is his first one-man show in central London.

But it must not be supposed from this history that Lunn has been content to follow meekly in the footsteps of more celebrated contemporaries. His work is in fact strikingly individual, partly because of the unexpected combination of elements: one hardly expects to meet the (well-absorbed) influence of de Chirico in the very conservative, very English forms of tempera painting on board or C. of E. wall. And yet Lunn is one of our most successful surrealists with a real freshness of vision and the enviable ability to discipline his vagrant fancies within the strict construction visible in his straight landscapes such as *The Harbour* (1936), where it would be difficult to say which one prefers, the final tempera version or the elaborate water-colour study, actually just finished and a trifle larger.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts

Sinfonietta/Rattle
Barbican

The trouble with much of Shostakovich's music is that one can never be sure whether he means something else. Are his more bombastic movements simply an attempt to update Tchaikovsky, or are they an ironical indictment of the system that forces conservatism upon artists? But the Fourteenth Symphony, like its daring, protesting predecessor, is different, and not just because it happens to be a song-cycle. It states its messages directly.

Its subject, of course, is death: not only the physical death confronted by Mahler but the death by suffocation of the will to express oneself. Lines such as Kuchelbecker's "Where and what is the joy in talent amongst the villains and insane?" (from "O Delvig, Delvig") testify to that, and the significance of this particular song is all the greater for coming after the fury of the previous Apollinaire setting, a savage indictment, if there ever was, of totalitarianism.

Simon Rattle, with the strings and percussion of the London Sinfonietta, engineered a captivating performance, helped considerably by the superb singing of the two soloists, Felicity Palmer, sounding very much the Slav with her expert Russian, was ideally cast, singing Apollinaire's "The Suicide" with chilling despair, while her colleague, Malcolm King, also made appositely resonant noises, creating a tragically desolate mood in the same poet's "In the Same Prison".

Earlier in this contribution to the Mahler, Vienna and the Twentieth Century series there was a touching reading of Mahler's *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* in which the soloist Alfreda Hodgson, a pity she could not quite make the final low note, and Alexander Goehr's Little Symphony, Op. 15, though perhaps a little lengthy, was full of good ideas and scored with gratifying opulence.

Stephen Pettitt

Quartet Competition
Guildhall, Portsmouth

The Portsmouth International String Quartet Competition is pretty good for show business. At the prizewinners' gala concert on Sunday there were more fanfares, flowers and flags than there were strings and bows; and it all ended with Garry Karr mercilessly upstaging two of his fellow jury members, Yifrah Neeman and Yehudi Menuhin, in Boltsini's *Grand Duo Concertant*.

Now in its third session, this triennial competition offers both less and more than meets the eye. An ensemble contest fundamentally makes no better sense than one for soloists. But the winners, as the Takacs and Hagen quartets of previous years have shown, do seem to provide richer and more lasting nourishment for the musical world. What will become of this year's winners, the Alexander

Quartet from New York, remains to be seen. On the evidence of their Beethoven Op. 59 No. 2, this is a group whose synthesis of strongly characterized individual voices is resilient enough to take inspiring risks, and sophisticated enough to see them through with imaginative sensitivity.

For sheer performing flair they seemed just to have the edge over the second prizewinners, the Shanghai Quartet. But here were musicians whose skill in manipulating the finest web of tonal correspondences, and in giving melody the suppleness of planchant, created an indelibly memorable performance of Barber's Op. 11 Quartet.

The only British finalists, the Roth Quartet, were placed fifth, with the Lydian Quartet (United States) and the New Vlach Quartet (Czechoslovakia) in third and fourth places respectively.

Hilary Finch

ECC/Protheroe
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Although Beethoven composed his Mass in C major on a smaller scale and with more intimate character than the great *Missa solenne*, being a successor to Haydn's various settings for the name-day of the Princess Esterházy, it is by no means inferior in its devotional spirit and sensitivity. Such qualities nevertheless invite a less pedestrian and at times laboured approach than that conducted by Guy Protheroe with the English Chamber Choir and its associated orchestra, the English Players.

He was cautious to the point of timidity in the opening Kyrie, not at all what I believe Beethoven meant by his reference to "inner submission", and the tenets of faith at the start of the Credo were equally half-hearted in their statement. The choir of 33 voices had the requisite balance except for a weakness of tenors, but the low E flat at the end of "Et sepultus est" was not faintly intoned, and the entries of "Et vitam venturi" were disinclined to spring forth.

The choir followed a policy of calling on a quartet of soloists from among its numbers, and Ann Manly, Julia Field, Mark Johnstone and Anthony Seales responded with considerable assurance, especially the ladies. The bantone seemed to have a second singer doubling him for much of the time, and was less in need of such support than the tenor, a singer valiant for truth in his solo passages who went down gamely whenever the other voices closed over him.

The Mass was preceded by the Choral Fantasy, in which the choir sang the ode to music of the closing section with something approaching the fervour of a *Fidelio* chorus. A decent though still often laboured orchestral ensemble was supplemented by Julian Jacobson as the solo pianist. He began with a suitably improvisatory character in the long unaccompanied opening, and later kept a firm control over the formal proportions of the keyboard's contribution.

Noël Goodwin

Television

A little of what you fancy . . . ?

Clinical ecologists, doctors who believe that allergies to quite common foods are responsible for many obstinate ailments, are enjoying a vogue in America but are themselves being given the cold shoulder by orthodox medical opinion. The latter dismisses their claims as quackery. Such studies as they do come up with have difficulty in gaining publication in the right places.

BBC 2's *Horizon*, in *The Food Allergy War*, last night examined this infernecine warfare. Doctors pro and con popped in and out in rather bewildering fashion but the general impression was that the clinical ecologists might be on to something.

The warfare in America is not reflected here, where orthodox medicine is more inclined to

scientific appraisal than contemptuous dismissal.

Dr Jonathan Brostoff, a clinical immunologist at the Middlesex Hospital, said he regarded some of the evidence he had seen from clinical ecologists as quite objective. He thought orthodox clinical allergists might have difficulty in accepting their technique of neutralization therapy because, relying as it did on diminishing doses of allergy-inducing substances to patients, and usually without drugs, it was the exact opposite of the orthodox treatment.

An American doctor thought that the reluctance of medical journals in the US to give the ecologists a platform might not be unconnected with their economic dependence on drug advertising.

Dr Ronald Finn, a consultant physician at the Royal Liverpool Hospital, thought that the pioneer of clinical ecology, Dr Theron Randolph, whose claims to cure arthritis and other common scourges are officially pooch-pooched in the US, would prove to be a dominant physician of our era. He was, he thought, 30 years before his time.

Evidence was given by British specialists of success in pursuing similar techniques, which could be good news for those of us who are "polysymptomatic patients" - people, that is, who feel afflicted in many ways but do not appear to have anything really wrong with them. Tony Edwards's programme, though suffering rather from a superfluity of medical men, gave much food for thought.

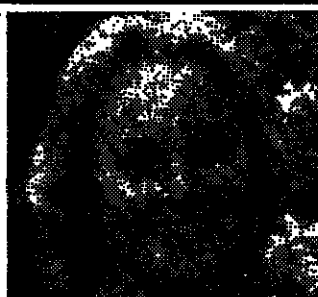
Dennis Hackett

"I wish I did something extraordinary, pet, like keep a crocodile in the bath". Sheila Gish apologises. "One's very ordinary. The only thing that makes one extraordinary is the work." She wears a fluffy pink jersey and a broad puppyish grin. With her green agate eyes, long blonde curls - and the occasional "pet" - it is a deceptive combination. When it comes to her work, particularly her work at Greenwich, she has little need of crocodiles.

She has returned to Greenwich, the scene of her triumphant *Blanche* in last season's *A Streetcar Named Desire*, to play the part of Cecilia in Schnitzler's *Intermezzo*, which opens tonight. Set in Vienna about 1910, it follows an opera-singer's attempt to live up to her composer husband's wishes for a modern, open marriage. In the end she proves to be the stronger of the two. "I wouldn't play a part I didn't feel I could understand. I always have to find something of myself in a character."

Sheila Gish is proud to have made it in the theatre in an old-fashioned way. She is impatient with today's young actresses "who go straight into television and achieve a sort of fame on the back of which they get asked to do stage work. There's no substitute for practice. The only way to get better at a craft is by doing it, to rehearse particularly and precisely so that regardless of flu, a broken leg or a death in the family you can go on and give a performance which won't leave people feeling cheated."

She has been giving performances since primary school. Her father, a regular officer, was stationed in Germany, the Sudan and Egypt where, beside the Sweet Water Canal, she acted as a Russian spy in *The Crimson Cocoon*. Living abroad and then moving to Bath's Royal School for Daughters of the Officers of the Army - "which was just like it



Nicholas Shakespeare meets Sheila Gish (above), who opens in *Intermezzo* at Greenwich tonight

Strong in practice

sounds" - bred both a sense of the ridiculous and resilience. After RADA and repertory in Birmingham and Pilchro - where she met her actor husband, Roland Curram - Gish did television work. The parts were not very satisfactory, mainly sharp-tongued suburban housewives from the white wine and scampi belt. In one two-hander she was cast opposite her husband. "The director had no idea we were married. If we hadn't been - and able to cut a 76-page script in bed each night - it might never have been made."

She could have gone on to corner rich bitches on television and boulevard comedienne on stage but in 1981 "a valuable bell sounded". With the true grit of one who had survived Bath's Army School, she refused a major lucrative part and decided to break away from light comedy. The risk paid. Her willingness to pursue initial convictions and throw herself into the ring - "acting without

safety nets" one of her producers called it - led to her playing *Bérénice* at the Lyric, Hammersmith, and to the part of *Blanche*.

"You cannot hang about and wait for other people to do the thing for you. I'd known for two years I wanted to do *Streetcar*." Her previous experience with Tennessee Williams had not been a happy one. In 1978 she had resigned from the cast of *Four Corners* after he had made some cuts. Her action was "entirely for artistic reasons". She believed the playwright's fine tuning was not as good as the original. Nevertheless, when she wrote to him saying she wanted to do *Streetcar*, he gave the go-ahead. Sadly he never lived to see it. Those who did noticed how she took away the varnish other performances had added, and gave the audience a new-minted *Blanche* and a sense that the character's illusions were her own.

"You don't have to have the same griefs and fears. You use your own, which is why I wouldn't go to an analyst to be cleaned up. And you do keep bits. You give parts of yourself and you acquire some of theirs. When I played *Blanche* my nerves felt like cat-gut. I'm not a nymphomaniac yet, but the whole family still talks in Southern accents."

She has come to Greenwich from the National and Tom Stoppard's *Rough Crossing*, an experience she likens to a marriage. "It didn't work out as I had hoped." Her relationships with directors are a matter of chemistry, "as is a love affair", and she had never worked with Peter Wood before. *Intermezzo*, on the other hand, is her third collaboration with Christopher Fettes. Meanwhile she has to go and have a corset fitted. "If you get the underwear right for the part," she explains with a merry whoop, "you're nearly there. It totally determines how you behave."

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Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Industry told to shape up

British industrialists are not aware of new technology's potential and must improve the quality of their products if they want to succeed in the internationally competitive world of electronics.

Last week ministers, led by Trade and Industry Secretary Norman Tebbit, lectured and pleaded with industry's decision makers in an attempt to bully the business out of its complacency.

On Monday Mr Tebbit was subtly vilifying British management for its sluggishness. By Friday he was addressing the Confederation of British Industry with a similar theme. Accompanying the criticisms were modest amounts of money to help the British grasp the technological nettle and get their products and processes sufficiently modernized to compete with the Japanese and the Americans.

Mr Tebbit's comments to the House of Commons on Monday were disguised. It was left to the Information Technology minister, Mr Geoffrey Pattie, to outline details of the innovation support package which Mr Tebbit had announced.

Previous funding for innovation has been roughly divided into support for projects (80 per cent) and awareness programmes. This was going to change, said Mr Pattie. Greater emphasis is to be put on educating financiers and industrial-

ists. One third of the entire budget of around £300 million is to be devoted to awareness programmes, showing business how to transfer technology from the lab to the assembly line.

But shouldn't this all have happened in 1982, when millions were spent on Information Technology year, which, the Prime Minister assured us, had been a great success and when IT awareness was substantially increased?

Mr Pattie admitted that the results of

the week addressing delegates at a CBI conference as part of the DTT's campaign to make the British more aware of "quality".

The CBI delegates were reminded that the British were credited with generating many ideas which were subsequently exploited commercially by others. Despite its dominance in the IT world, Japan was responsible for only about 6 per cent of the world's scientific breakthroughs, while the United States is credited with only 20 per cent. Britain in contrast, is responsible for almost half of those inventions.

A new campaign, the National Quality Campaign, will be fuelled by the activities of a foundation whose membership will be the driving force. National figures in sport and entertainment are to attract the attention of ordinary workers.

The foundation will attempt to sweep the country with a wave of national pride as we try to find a formula to make us, at least industrially, the match of the Japanese and the Americans.

Mrs Thatcher has decided to take a hand and has summoned 20 top industrialists to a meeting in May. She wants to know at first hand what is going wrong. The reasons must not please her. Some can be laid at her door and those of her industry ministers.

THE WEEK

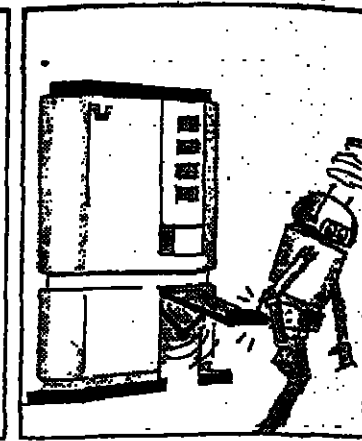
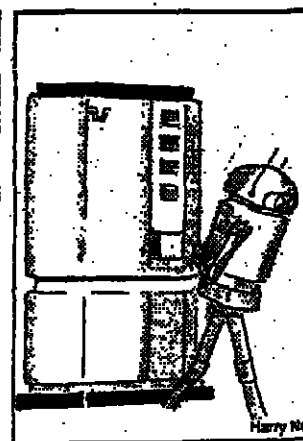
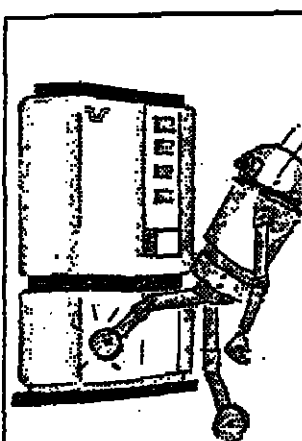
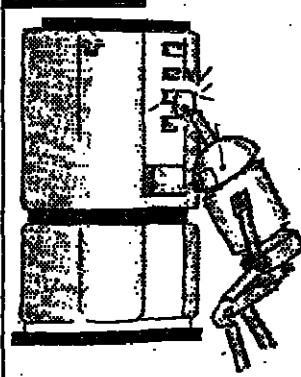
Bill Johnstone

Technology Correspondent

A recent government survey were disappointing. It showed that around 25 per cent of British firms had made no change in their production processes in the last five years. 30 per cent had made no design change to include high technology in their products, and 40 per cent of managers interviewed conceded that their companies had no policy on technology.

Mr Pattie was on his feet again later in

AGOG



First class service, if you know enough geography

Q: What is the difference between electronic mail and telex service about which I am making inquiries?

A: Electronic mail is fundamentally different from telex and telex-type services. In electronic mail the destination is an electronic mailbox which is accessed by the addressee. The telex service is basically a way of upgrading the presentation and readability of telex-style messages, with added gains in speed.

Clearly, the different types of services are designed to be used by different groups of people. The level of confidentiality via electronic mail is usually much higher than with those services which use a physical terminal as a destination point.

The elegant idea of electronic mail is marred by practical realities. You may truly need to know the geographical difference between Liverpool and Athens or Singapore.

Q: I am told that using a computer in my car will mean buying a battery-driven "lap-held" model. Can I operate a small desktop-type computer from the car battery?

A: It is largely a matter of expense. The cheap "power packs" which can be driven by car batteries are not suitable for many types of disc drives, for instance, and some appropriate packs carry large price tags. However, it is possible that for about £200 there will be a purpose-designed pack to fit small desk-top personal computers.

I am told these will be widely available in a month or so. If you are still lacking an answer

to your problem then let me know exactly what your needs are.

Q: Tight budgets mean we have to choose to delay either the upgrading of our telephone system, or providing adequate personal computers. Which is likely to be least damaging?

A: Concentrating on an adequate telephone system is probably a first priority. A proper balance between communications and computing is essential if office work is to be well supported. When demands for computing are well supported by evidence of business opportunities, then using some form of equipment leasing should help to stretch the budget to cover urgent needs.

It is worth noting that smaller private branch exchanges are now available which possess good features. It is especially true that full digital functions are available when more than 30 users are connected.

Q: I am being asked to allow the purchase of an IBM-compatible PC on the grounds (among others) that it is faster than the

IBM equivalent for the same sum. Is this really sound reasoning?

A: Presumably your instincts are to stick with the main IBM product offerings. However, personal computers are a little like London taxis. When there is no work to do they are in everyone's way, but when they are doing a job everyone else is in their way.

Although creating a spreadsheet is the time-consuming task, once it is ready to run the users like to see the results quickly. Large spreadsheets can run rather slowly on basic IBM PC models and this is, perhaps, what has created the request for a speedier equivalent.

The urge to use a really responsive computer is a sign that staff have big plans in mind for the systems. Unless the case has been put very poorly there is probably a real need for the extra speed in processing.

Q: Our younger members of staff have taken the personal computer to their hearts. However, we are now going to introduce more senior staff to them. Just how slowly will they adapt?

A: There is good evidence on the process of adaptation. It seems to take about 30 hours of grappling to achieve competence. At this point the user starts to think freely again about the problem being worked on, rather than how to deal with it via the computer.

Provided your seniors have the motivation to cope with the relevant software, then an extra 10 to 20 hours of experience is likely to be needed to achieve "free flight".

Dilemma in law over hackers

By Matthew May

Hackers will be watching with interest the outcome of charges made last week against the two freelance computer journalists under the 1981 Forgery and Counterfeiting Act. Both are due to appear at Bow Street magistrates court tomorrow.

The charges mark the first time in this country that the activities of hackers - people who delight in breaking into other people's computer systems - are to be taken seriously.

Both the police and those in charge of company computers have become increasingly concerned at the growth in the popularity of hacking, aided by the fall in the cost of communication equipment linking home micros to mainframe computers.

Now the era of home computer games has passed its peak, no self-respecting computer hobbyists can afford to be seen in public unless they have jumped on the latest bandwagon.

The equipment needed can be used quite legitimately to access databases, notably Britain's public viewpoint system Prestel.

But it can also be used to hack into other people's computers and any crackdown on hacking will face the problem that virtually all the equipment and software used by hackers has a legal and permissible use.

Unless police catch hackers actually in the act of unauthorized access of a computer, or use telephone taps to find out which phone numbers dialled and which passwords have been entered, then prosecution will not be easy.

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Resolve in the boardroom

The boardroom of the Imperial Group is now the proud possessor of a "corporate control system" which has a screen installed in a wall at one end of the board room with back projection mechanics in the room next door.

Using a product called Resolve, the board and senior management can call up computer generated data, video-text, video and slides using an infra-red remote control unit which, claims the developers, Metaprix, allows even the most technologically hampered to use it.

The computer data used is

extracted from a company's existing computer resources and is largely the same data that features in regular financial and other reports produced on existing systems.

The Resolve system costs between £25,000 and £75,000.

Metaprix is not the usual sort of computer software company. Its chairman, Sir Douglas Haggard, a former adviser to 10 Downing Street's policy unit, and chairman of the Economic and Social Science Research Council, talks of it as "the Manchester Business School in exile."

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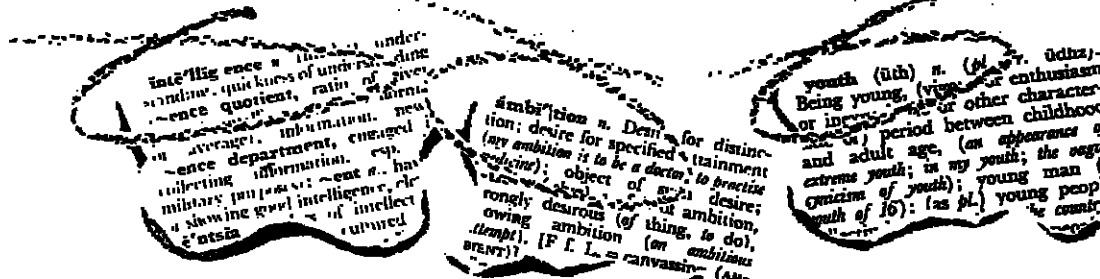
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COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

Commodore gets back to business

By Geoff Wheelwright

Commodore Business Machines wants to sell business computers again. Its launch of two IBM PC compatible business computers late last month is part of a move to get back into a market that it largely abandoned in favour of popular home computers such as the Commodore 64.

The need to make an impact on the business market was underlined by February's disappointing results for Commodore International and the ensuing drop in Commodore shares from about \$20 six months ago to a current level of near \$10.

The recent 50 per cent price cut on Commodore's serious home computer, the Plus Four, has not endeared the company to some of its existing dealers, but it may well be that Commodore doesn't see a great overlap between the existing dealers and future business machines - so retailer disengagement shouldn't prejudice the marketing of business machines.

In fact, the release of a PC-type business machine probably has more to do with re-establishing a Commodore business dealer network than with beating IBM. The machines offer little more in the way of features than the IBM PC and the PC XT designs they are cloned from - although pricing is more attractive. The PC10 - with two disk drive storage units, 256K RAM and sockets for both printers and modern communications units - sells for a base price of £1,925. The PC20 substitutes a 10 megabyte hard disk storage unit for one of the disk drives and adds £1,290 to the price.

If this attractive pricing structure can pull business computer dealerships in Commodore's direction, the company will have a firm base from which to launch further business products. A machine based around Commodore's 28000 microprocessor chip, and the long-awaited Macintosh-like Amiga computer.

The first machine was developed from a Canadian-designed IBM compatible - the Hyperion - to which Commodore bought the rights last year. It had announced plans to bring the machine out under the Commodore badge as a simple IBM compatible. That plan has since been abandoned, although some of the preliminary design work done by the Canadian company on a desktop PC compatible was used in developing the Commodore PC10 and PC20.

The Amiga could provide Commodore with a smooth transition from its current intensive concentration on the home computer market to a more even mix between home and business machines.

UK events

London Festival of Computing, various venues, April 9-20 (01 240 8206).
Festival Fair, Central Hall, Westminster April 18-20, (01 240 8206).
Computer Assisted Learning Exhibition, East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, April 11-13.

Northern Computer Show (trade), Belle Vue Manchester, April 16-18. Computer Aided Production Management, Wembley Conference Centre, April 30-May 2 (01 579 9411).

Apple 85, Novotel Complex, Hammersmith, London, May 9-11 (061 480 7863).
Micro City 85 (trade), Bristol Exhibition Complex, May 14-16, (04427 73291).

Business Computer Show, Earls Court, London, June 4-6 (01 643 8040).
Commodore Computer Show, Novotel Complex, Hammersmith, London, June 7-9 (01 630 6071).

Overseas events
InfoComm Europe, Milan, Italy, April 14-18.
Saudi Computer 85, Riyadh Exhibition Centre, Saudi Arabia, April 14-18.

Anger over American anti-crime plan

COMPUTER BRIEFING

A row has erupted in America over plans by the Justice Department to develop a computerized system through which the thousands of police agencies can exchange information about white-collar crime.

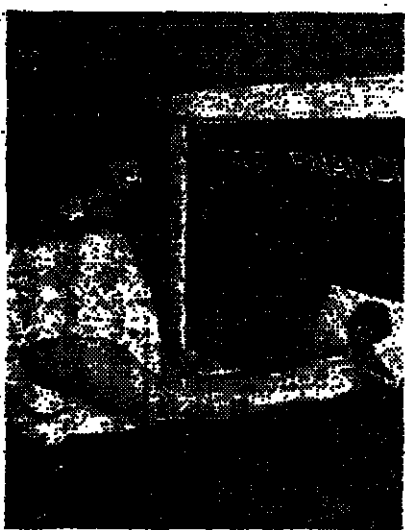
The proposed system will include police suspects, leads, the names of suspects and possibly their associates. Currently, virtually all information transmitted on the FBI's computer system, which covers more than 64,000 federal, state and local criminal justice agencies, involves public record material, such as an arrest warrant or a persons record.

Critics of the system believe the inclusion of material such as rumours threatens constitutional rights. Another concern is the network's broad availability.

Sinclair refund woes
Some small companies which supply Sinclair micro to the high street are worried they will not get refunds despite Sinclair's price reductions and will be left with overpriced stock. The companies have been supplied through Prism, one of the principal distributors of Sinclair machines which ceased trading in January. Sinclair dropped the price of its Spectrum + computer after Christmas in an attempt to boost lagging sales. The price was reduced by £50 to about £130. Sir Clive Sinclair has admitted that it cost £1 million to compensate for the reductions.

Going for gold

Electronic mail becomes cheaper and more comprehensive from today, with the



Automatic banking moves into video

announcement by Telecom Gold of a new low-cost membership and an enhanced telex facility.

The system will become a two-tier structure, offering "club-membership" at £40, and a corporate membership of £300. The club membership entitles the user to a single mailbox, starter pack of information and access to the help line.

The telex facility currently only able to handle out-going telexes, will now allow a customer to receive incoming telexes in their mailbox.

Boost for building

Since it opened a year ago, the Building Computer Centre has handled more than

7,000 enquiries from the building industry, seeking information on hardware, software, systems and consultancy.

Giving advice to the professions and builders, the centre has demonstrated systems by most leading manufacturers, running programs for job costing, buying, stock holding, computer-aided design, and many other industry specific applications.

Sharp images

Kodak had developed a computerized system for handling images from film or video; the Kodak Image Management system (KIMS), in which a picture stored digitally need never be processed in the traditional way.

The idea is that KIMS will pave the way for true digital film and photography, handling images which can then be edited, stored, processed or touched up by computer. While this is still several years away, KIMS can also capture an image processed traditionally on cassettes of film either from an automatic scanner, in the case of video, or from a microfilm, for single pictures.

Screening soon

Automatic cash dispensers could soon be showing films about bank services using interactive videodisks (see picture). This customer-activated self-service terminal, as it would like to be known, can arrange loans, insurance or even the buying of stocks and shares automatically according to the manufacturers, NCR. The terminal, could for example, show a short film about an investment scheme and then display a touch-sensitive keyboard on the screen so a customer could enter details.

Automation awards

A catering services consultancy, GWP Associates, of Chatham, Kent took two of



"He always was a stickler for documentation"

the Office Automation Awards 1985 presented at the Info 85 exhibition, Olympia, London, last week. The company won the award for the best system of a large user and the major overall award.

Other winners were:
● Best system, small user (up to 10 VDU's): London Borough of Enfield;
● Best information storage and retrieval system: Southern Water Authority;
● Best use of communication facilities: Isle of Man government;
● Personal computer user award: British Bakeries Ltd, West Yorkshire.

A glance behind the IT curtain

From Christian Burckhardt, Leipzig

In an attempt to rival western domination of high technology, East Germany is pushing its ageing factories into the computer era in the face of tough sanctions and a drain of components to Russia.

The GDR's leader, Erich Honecker, made his priorities clear at Leipzig International Trade Fair last month by opening the show at the micro-electronics pavilion. Pride of place went to East Germany's first high-speed, 16-bit small computer.

Officials concede that the machine, produced by the state-owned Robotron company in Dresden, will not go into full production until autumn 1986. Yet the tardy arrival of these more advanced electronic brains should help fill the ranks of the country's modest army of industrial robots.

East Germany says it has 40,000 such robots installed. Western experts say that most still belong to Japanese standards but investment is clearly being stepped up rapidly.

East Germany is the victim of its hard currency needs and reliance on Soviet imports. Its microelectronic devices and computer components are drained off as payment to Moscow for raw materials and oil. Further production is siphoned off to the lucrative hard-currency western markets, in which East Germany is hoping for breakthroughs with its home and small computers.

Erfurt, a new plant 150 miles from Berlin, last year produced the first 500 East-German home computers, although few are expected to find their way into private flats as playthings. Officials say that most will go to offices, youth clubs and schools. Erfurt representatives aim also to sell them in the West.

The industry now employs 450,000 of a population of fewer than 17 million. Recent state-ment by top party officials suggest it will get a further boost in next year's new five-year plan. But bold steps are needed if East Germany is to come anywhere near fulfilling its dreams of introducing full computer systems on the railway network, in banking and other key areas.

How to get the most from a consultant

From Erik Sandberg, New York

Hardly a week goes by without a query to me about consultants. An experience all too typical of the business scene recounted by Colin Mackinnon, editor of the Washington-based monthly *Middle East Executive Reports*.

When he started his job, a word processor had already been installed. The personal computer used the popular wordstar program for text editing, but the machine itself was ancient, selected by consultants because they were cheap.

Help finally came in the shape of more consultants, who looked like school children. They didn't even speak English.

Through these children, however, the company discovered that the computer could actually function as a typesetting machine as well as a word processor. For years, Mackinnon relates, we were doing it the old way, sending messages to the printer. Now we just wire out the typeset pages.

This incident points up rather well both the problems and the benefits of dealing with personal computing consultants. It also suggests some of the factors that anyone about to hire a consultant should consider.

First of all, of course, is a consultant truly needed? This is a question best answered, in the case of a business contemplating computerization, before the first micro is installed and the first software purchased. A consultant is almost sure to say that the wrong computer or the wrong software has been chosen.

Anyone either unfamiliar with the jargon of Silicon Valley or unable to take the considerable amount of time needed to acquire a feel for a personal computer is a potential candi-

date for the services of a consultant. Anyone who has entered a computer store and left two hours later in a state of total confusion might also profit from professional help.

If the work to be computerized cannot be defined in detail, no person and no machine is going to be much help. A good way to start is to pin down answers to the following questions: Who deals with what information when? How may the scope of each operation be expected to change? What are the biggest problems affecting efficiency at the moment?

A budget should also be drawn up before calling in a consultant. An estimate of funds should be made, then tripled. The lower amount should be mentioned to the consultant, the higher amount is the minimum that will probably be paid out the first year, if not in dollars, then in work disruption and lost time.

Now choose your consultants. Look for a team whose non-computer expertise lies in an area similar to your own. Then make sure they really have the experience they claim. At least, check references carefully.

Try to find how long the consultant had been doing business in the current location. If only briefly, check to see how long the previous office was tenanted.

Another way to minimize consultant shock is to make sure that every step is documented. If a consultant develops special software, for instance, find out exactly what was done and why, in case problems arise when the consultant has gone.



A world of illusion

Jonathan Waldern, 23, a graduate of the School of Industrial Design at Leicester Polytechnic, constructed this three-dimensional computer graphics workstation which won him a £7,500 award last year. He used the money to develop research for a PhD in computer science. The workstation lets users create computer models of everyday objects such as tables and telephones - using a variety of new techniques. When viewed through the head-mounted assembly a three-dimensional object is seen in a similar fashion to a hologram. If the user wants to view the image on the screen from a different position, the computer changes the image in relation to the viewing angle. This illusory world can then be modelled or manipulated as desired.

Mr Waldern won his prize from design awards sponsored by the Royal Designers for Industry and British Telecom which are administered by the Royal Society of Arts.

He now hopes to develop the system further and has applied for funding to the Alvey fifth generation computing scheme but would be interested in discussing his project with organizations.

EEC cash boost to IT companies

By Richard Sarson

Computer companies all across Europe last month submitted their bids for research grants under the EEC's Esprit programme, (the European Strategic Programme for Research and Development in Information Technology). Funds worth £129 million are available this year, out of £1430 million for the full five years.

Last year, £167 million were allocated for 104 projects. British companies got 18 per cent of this money, rather less than the Germans (22 per cent) and the French (21 per cent). In the section covering artificial intelligence and knowledge-based systems, a field in which we lead Europe, the UK got only nine per cent.

This relatively poor showing reflects the reluctance of smaller British research teams to find a continental partner, and then suffer bureaucratic delays and supervision from Brussels.

One observer believes that some good British ideas have been let down by poorly-written submissions.

Esprit was the brainchild of Viscount Davignon, the EEC's outgoing Industry Commissioner. He was worried, not only by American dominance in Europe's computer market, but also by Japan's immense research efforts into the fifth generation of thinking machines.

Europe's fragmented computer industry, made up of national companies like Siemens, Nixdorf, Bull, Philips, Olivetti and ICL, has never cooperated effectively to combat the American or Japanese challenges, despite 15 years of prodding by the EEC.

The companies have preferred to make unilateral deals with Fujitsu, Honeywell or

AT&T. Esprit is another attempt to bang their heads together.

The stated aims of Esprit are to "foster cooperation and to pave the way to standards of European origin".

The method is to pay half the costs of "pre-competitive" research, done by cross-border consortia of companies, universities and research institutes.

Realization that the Japanese fifth generation is closer than originally thought has also concentrated the mind of the European companies. So has the increasing European trade deficit in computers, which will reach \$1.5 billion next year.

But what has stimulated cooperation more than anything else is the US's ban on technology transfer to the Eastern bloc. The Europeans have realized that they can no longer rely on the supply of American components or equipment; so they will have to create their own source.

Therefore, the emphasis of Esprit's second year has changed to a more focused approach for projects with a shorter time-scale. One Esprit official has now defined pre-competitive as anything on which more than one company is cooperating.

However, some pessimists believe that it is not enough to research and develop a European product or standard, it has to be sold world wide, if it is to survive against the marketing power of America and Japan. European companies are not geared to do this, and so a major voluntary - or involuntary - restructuring of the European companies is necessary.

Olivetti's takeover of Acorn may be a forerunner of such a process.

Tough days for the staff hunters

JOB SCENE

By Edward Fennell

Recruitment consultancies for computer staff are opening up at the rate of one a week. But that is, unfortunately, also the rate at which they are closing. The dropout level, it is claimed, is a fair reflection of the tough business in which they are working.

There are now about 300 such consultancies in Britain. They give a specialist service which is proving deceptively attractive to agencies wishing to exploit the excess of demand over supply in information technology staff.

"The trouble is that computer recruitment consultants have got a poor image", complained one firm.

"Too often they are regarded as little better than used car salesmen without any recognition given to the contribution which a good agency can make to a client's success. Mind you, I must confess that there are some agencies around who just aren't up to the job."

Basically there is a dearth of recruitment consultants who have wide, first-hand knowledge of the industry they serve. And yet even the good computer man or woman does not necessarily make a good recruitment consultant.

"We've been actively adver-

tising for trainees, for the past few months," said David Walder, of Modus Management Services, "and frankly it's even harder to recruit them than it is to fill our client's vacancies. We've had more than 200 applicants and there was only one person we felt was right for the job."

The main problem is that suitable applicants need to have a range of skills - technical, commercial and personal - which are rarely found together.

Mr Walder says: "With such a national shortage of computer staff the odds are heavily stacked against you, as a recruitment consultant, finding the right candidate. So you have to work two or three times as hard to get the odds coming back in your favour."

However, the financial rewards can be considerable.

"You need to stay motivated," says Mr Walder, "and be the kind of person who can constantly respond to a challenge. If you don't, then the pressures of the job could mean that you burn yourself out."

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142	142	Amul	142	0	...
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875	470	Petroleum	470	0	42.9
142	142	Shell	142	-1	...
308	288	Burroughs	288	0	...
327	327	British	319	0	...
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128	116	Cropper (James)	118	+	109	107
190	151		170		170	
590	440	Buschcamp Pulp	515	-1	107	2.82
175	140	Guerra Green	142		150	2.83
263	170	Good Relations	213		71	3.40
316	165	Leah W-G-C-E	301	-	77	3.41
151	95	McGowan	171	-7	77	3.43
86	86	More O'Ferrall	88		49	5.53
128	116	Norton Open	126		48	2.21
39	30	Ogilby & Meiner	327	+		

171	77	4.2
88	49	5.1
125	48	2.7

PROPERTY						
187	14	Alben	14	-3	8.2	1.1
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119	100	Allen	111	-3	2.9	2.3
80	70	Barnes Eve	14		1.6	8.5
226	200	Barnes C	230		1.7	3.3
226	220	Brown P	408	-2	14.8	6.5
410	390	Bradford	430		10.4	2.6
118	125	Br Leach	146		1.6	6.6
135	135	Boston	130	-5	6.5	5.2
214	195	Cap & Courdes	210	-1	2.9	3.3
278	245	Carroll Prop	170		7.6	1.8

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110	18	1.2
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312	186	Danvers	185	80.9	3.4
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25	15	Essex Trust	345	1.5	9.2
150	145	Estimates & Agency	158	4.3	2.7
100	89	Estimates Gen	100	3.3	2.3
100	141	Estimates Prop	121	11.5	7.8
75	70	Essex of Leeds	72	4.5	8.2
55	50	Essex Sales	50	0	+1
102	156	Essex	136	+1	9.0
102	148	Essex Portland	137	+2	7.9

129	●	.	63	49
314		..	82	28
376		..	129	42

515	485	Do A	470	+6	11.4	2.4
502	476	Mastercard	475		12.7	2.7
507	380	Johnson	365	●	10.7	1.5
115	85	Jenny	114		2.3	2.0
132	262	Lafay Pro	255	●-2	8.9	3.1
46	95	Land Innovations	90	●	1.8	3.4
132	262	Land Innovations	255	●	8.9	3.1
132	533	Loe & Pro Shop	419	●+1	10.1	1.0
132	120	Loe Shop Pro	129	●	8.3	4.9
355	300	Lyndon	316		8.2	2.8
355	265	McCoy	264	●	12.9	4.2
120	95	McKee	90		1.8	3.7
159	109	McKee	100		4.5	3.7
176	75	Marshall	64		0.7	1.3
176	123	Marshall	115		2.3	1.3
159	123	Marshall	115		2.3	1.3

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54	76	MacKinnon (A.L.)	82	...	7.0	8.5
184	126	Martinez	216	...	15.1	17.0
54	76	McDonnell	1.7p	2.1
31	27	Merrett	23	...	1.4	1.3
248	230	Patchay	247	...	10.7	4.3
184	184	Prop & Hov	184	...	5.8	2.7
132	132	Prop Nidge	125	-2	5.3	3.1
132	129	Prop Security	127	...	5.3	2.7
8	7	Ragan	81	...	0.1	1.5
95	74	Raglan	92	-2	3.7	4.5
228	210	Rainbow	225	...	4.8	0.5
228	210	Rain & Tompkins	225	...	10.4	4.4
134	145	Rain	134	...	1.0	1.5

135	4.1	17.0	11.3
136	5.4	17.0	11.3
137	6.1	17.0	11.3
138	6.4	17.0	11.3
139	6.1	17.0	11.3
140	6.4	17.0	11.3
141	6.1	17.0	11.3
142	6.4	17.0	11.3
143	6.1	17.0	11.3
144	6.4	17.0	11.3
145	6.1	17.0	11.3
146	6.4	17.0	11.3
147	6.1	17.0	11.3
148	6.4	17.0	11.3
149	6.1	17.0	11.3
150	6.4	17.0	11.3
151	6.1	17.0	11.3
152	6.4	17.0	11.3
153	6.1	17.0	11.3
154	6.4	17.0	11.3
155	6.1	17.0	11.3
156	6.4	17.0	11.3
157	6.1	17.0	11.3
158	6.4	17.0	11.3
159	6.1	17.0	11.3
160	6.4	17.0	11.3
161	6.1	17.0	11.3
162	6.4	17.0	11.3
163	6.1	17.0	11.3
164	6.4	17.0	11.3
165	6.1	17.0	11.3
166	6.4	17.0	11.3
167	6.1	17.0	11.3
168	6.4	17.0	11.3
169	6.1	17.0	11.3
170	6.4	17.0	11.3
171	6.1	17.0	11.3
172	6.4	17.0	11.3
173	6.1	17.0	11.3
174	6.4	17.0	11.3
175	6.1	17.0	11.3
176	6.4	17.0	11.3
177	6.1	17.0	11.3
178	6.4	17.0	11.3
179	6.1	17.0	11.3
180	6.4	17.0	11.3
181	6.1	17.0	11.3
182	6.4	17.0	11.3
183	6.1	17.0	11.3
184	6.4	17.0	11.3
185	6.1	17.0	11.3
186	6.4	17.0	11.3
187	6.1	17.0	11.3
188	6.4	17.0	11.3
189	6.1	17.0	11.3
190	6.4	17.0	11.3
191	6.1	17.0	11.3
192	6.4	17.0	11.3
193	6.1	17.0	11.3
194	6.4	17.0	11.3
195	6.1	17.0	11.3
196	6.4	17.0	11.3
197	6.1	17.0	11.3
198	6.4	17.0	11.3
199	6.1	17.0	11.3
200	6.4	17.0	11.3

102	148	Steady State	148	..	1.4	3.5
78	65	Staring Guarantee	65	..	1.4	2.1
476	465	Stack Conversion	488	..	1.4	1.9
30	24	Stochastic	25	+5	1.4	1.9
45	39	Town Centre	42	..	1.4	3.0
228	198	Trinidad Park	203	..	14.5	7.2
325	485	Ud Resi-	495	-2	14.5	7.2
815	808	Ud Resi-	815	..	21.4	3.5
425	413	Ward	420	..	21.4	3.5
20	21	Webb City	21	..	0.7	3.6
198	145	West & Country	148	..	10.7	7.3

SHIPPING

280	181	Assoc St Ports	248.			
298	228	Br Commonwealth	283		+2	12.1
301	238	Calcutta	278			8.3
121	35	Comp Inter (Lanes)	275			5.5
63	588	Crang	190			4.9
95	84	Haring Oil	95			17.8
WPT	54	Industs (R)	60.			6.7
4.	17	Lochs	3			4.7
22	17	Life	3			7.8
42	17	Mersey Docks	35			

189	4.4	7.9	4.2
345		22.9	5.8
24	3.3		

228	76	McClure (Walter)	94	..	7.1	7.8
228	228	Tomball Book	319	..	11.4	12.7

SHOES AND LEATHER						
228	196	FW	218	..	8.8	4.1
228	178	Garnier Book	228	..	11.1	11.1
228	37	Henderson Shoe	36	..	3.1	8.7
228	194	Lambert Howarth	228	..	7.2	3.3
228	96	Lambert	228	..	7.2	3.3

113	79	68
134	57	43

		TEXTILES			
430	300	Alfred Text	435	+2	1.4
430	104	Adrian Sinc	134	7	2.8
430	71	Banks (John)	134	+12	7.1
430	92	Beckman (A)	94		4.8
430	107	Br Mfg	121		2.7
430	70				6.8

	79	62
1822	44	82

102	222	Conquies	75	+	5.7	7.8
106	37	Crowther (4)	147	+	3.9	4.3
210	256	Dawn	278	+	10.7	8.8
212	118	Dick (2)	196	+	6.4	3.6
220	140	Dori Bost	125	+	7.1	3.8
125	98	Doris Hill	65	+	0.1	0.1
105	47	Flister (John)	125	+	0.1	0.1
103	34	Frank Swenson	100	+	0.1	0.1
80	43	Hickin Swenson	50	+	0.4	0.4
150	85	Hickin Swenson	110	+	0.4	0.4
100	51	Jenkins (Frank)	50	+	1.4	1.3
100	221	Johns (R)	50	+	3.0	5.7
100	100	Johns (R)	175	+	1.4	1.3

51	0.1	0.2
75	79	101
84	84	75

226	205	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
228	206	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
229	207	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
230	208	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
231	209	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
232	210	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
233	211	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
234	212	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
235	213	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
236	214	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
237	215	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
238	216	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
239	217	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
240	218	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
241	219	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
242	220	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
243	221	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
244	222	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
245	223	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
246	224	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
247	225	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
248	226	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
249	227	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
250	228	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
251	229	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
252	230	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
253	231	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
254	232	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
255	233	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
256	234	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
257	235	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
258	236	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
259	237	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
260	238	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
261	239	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
262	240	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
263	241	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
264	242	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
265	243	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
266	244	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
267	245	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
268	246	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
269	247	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
270	248	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
271	249	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
272	250	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
273	251	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
274	252	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
275	253	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
276	254	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
277	255	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
278	256	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
279	257	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
280	258	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
281	259	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
282	260	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
283	261	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
284	262	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
285	263	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
286	264	Madison	187	1	4.25	2.8
28						

140 . 2 5

TOBACCO						
385	918	SAT				
222	124	Imperial	330	+7	34.7	4.5
305	172	Producers "B"	170	-1	122	5.7
					5.8	4.8

@ Ex dividend. * Ex all. † Foreign dividend - a. Correct price, a. Interest payment present. † Price at suspension. Dividend and yield exclude a special dividend.

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rights, a Ex scrip or share sell
for late dealings. No signifi

Genet.

Dutch deal for Valin Pollen

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Prize catch for the TSB headhunters

It is rare in the clearing bank world for senior executives to move between banks. In the cosy days of yore the clearers even had an informal no-poaching agreement among themselves. This apparently fell into disuse but in reality it has remained "not done" to headhunt each other's staff.

TSB Group is breaking with convention, and has sent a buzz through City banking parlours in the process, by appointing a senior Barclays executive, Leslie Priestley, as chief general manager of TSB England and Wales. He joins TSB this month; he will take up his full role, which includes TSB's wholesale banking operations, after the TSB flotation this year or early next.

Mr Priestley, 51, has spent 33 years with Barclays including a spell as secretary-general of the Committee of London Clearing Banks. His present job as general manager of the Northern Region involves running the domestic bank from just south of Manchester to John O'Grates. In the hierarchy he is just below group general manager level.

It is something of a coup for the TSB to have recruited someone so senior from one of the big four clearers. It is also a refreshing development.

In rather different circumstance Midland bank broke new ground by bringing in a "outsider", Michael Julien, as finance director from BICC. Other outsiders have included Ernst Brutsche, who now heads the group treasury at Midland and Herve de Carmoy, who joined Midland in 1978, and who is now chief executive on the international side. However, even Midland stopped short of recruiting from other clearing banks. It did recruit Ian Morrison from the CLCB, a move that upset some other senior clearing bankers and for that reason should be seen as exceptional.

Mr Priestley's move will certainly be frowned on in the dustier clearing bank quarters, but perhaps all might benefit from occasional moves of this kind. It is not necessarily a criticism of existing management to suggest that the clearers, like any organization, might respond positively to infusions of fresh talent and ideas at the top.

Whitbread shakes its umbrella at S & N

The City is being treated to a sharp reminder that the Whitbread brewing group is as strongly traditional as ever. Whitbread Investment was back in the stock market yesterday, vying with Scottish & Newcastle Breweries for shares in the Blackburn-based brewer, Matthew Brown. S & N, which is bidding £100 million for the company, now owns 12.3 per cent of Brown; Whitbread Investment, which has no intention of making a bid, is up to a shade over 9 per cent.

Whitbread has acted in the role of protective big brother to small regional breweries since the 1950s, when Colonel Whitbread used to offer the Whitbread "umbrella" to those who wanted protection. Whitbread Investment is the vehicle for carrying the group's portfolio shares in such companies. At one time the Whitbread "umbrella" sheltered as many as 30 different breweries, though the number has shrunk considerably in recent years. In return for providing protection against unwanted takeovers, Whitbread, in the early days, would require some form of developing trading relationship.

The buying of Matthew Brown shares is the latest sign that umbrella activity is reviving. Two years ago Whitbread thwarted Wolverhampton & Dudley's attempt to take over Davenports by

buying a 6.3 per cent stake in the Birmingham brewer. Last year it was instrumental in engineering the merger between Border Breweries and Marston, Thompson & Evershed.

Whitbread's motives are not simply benevolent, although the origins of the Whitbread Investment were. Colonel Whitbread genuinely believed that a large number of independent brewers made for a healthy industry.

Today Whitbread is probably more concerned with thwarting Scottish & Newcastle's ambitions than anything else. Scottish & Newcastle will have to raise its bid again - possibly to as high as 500p a share - if it is to stand a realistic chance of getting Matthew Brown. If that happens, even Whitbread would be hard-pressed to resist.

The Office of Fair Trading may come to the brewer's rescue. The chance of the bid's being referred are high despite S & N's arguments about the combined group's share in the north-eastern beer market.

Record year for London hotels

The London hotel industry is booming, according to a report by Pannell Kerr Forster, the hotel consultants. The report, "Outlook in the Hotel and Tourism Industries", shows that occupancy levels, achieved room rates, guest numbers and total revenues all reached record levels in 1984.

Indications are that 1985 will be another very good year for the London hotel market, the report adds, with demand expected to remain high, and achieved room rates likely to continue to rise as the level of discounts decreases.

Occupancy levels in 1984 averaged 82.2 per cent, an increase of 4.8 per cent over the previous year. This brought with it a consequent rise in achieved room rates as hoteliers cut back on discounted rooms. On average, achieved room rates rose by 17.7 per cent.

It is tempting to attribute this apparent buoyancy to currency factors alone and the report blames this belief among hoteliers for the relatively low level of investment by large hotel groups in additional London capacity.

The report claims that London's popularity "cannot be glibly or solely attributed to favourable exchange rates". Other currencies beside sterling have fallen against the dollar without achieving the rise in the number of US visitors that London has. Visitors to Britain from countries other than the US, both from Europe and other parts of the world, have also increased.

The marketing skills of London hoteliers and the success of the British Tourist Authority in promoting London, are to be "commended".

A note of warning is sounded by Mr Graham Jackson, managing director of the London Visitor & Convention Bureau, in his contribution to the report. He points out that, despite the boom, there are few signs that the increase in hotel capacity - which will be required to meet forecast demand for hotel beds - will be made.

Planning restrictions and high land prices, he maintains, still make it more profitable to build empty office blocks than full hotels in central London. Too little competition combined with almost unlimited demand at present is leading to ever higher room rates.

There is a danger in such a profitable syndrome. Hotels reliant on American visitors could find themselves left high and dry if the dollar really loses its charms.

Congress may pass trade curbs on Japan this week

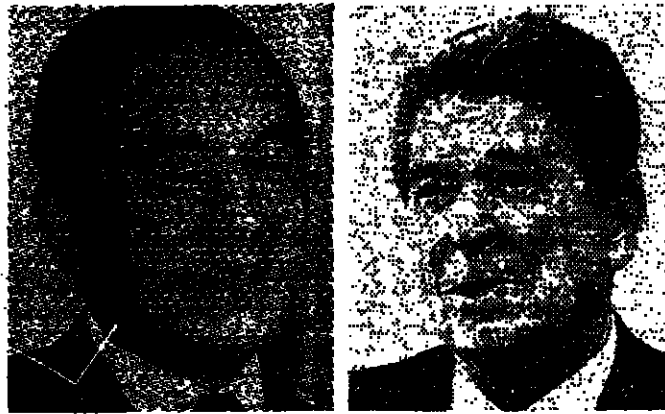
From Bailey Morris Washington

President Reagan received an emergency briefing yesterday on the worsening trade dispute with Japan from his special envoy who met Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, over the weekend to deliver a personal letter from the President.

Mr Gaston Sigur, a member of the US National Security Council, and Mr Lionel Olmer, Undersecretary of Commerce, met Mr Nakasone for a 90-minute session described by the White House as "cordial" but frank, with the US team giving warning of possible retaliation.

The briefing, which preceded a special Cabinet session today, came on a day in which the Senate Finance Committee worked on new legislation which would force Mr Reagan to restrict imports from Tokyo if Japan fails to open its markets to more American goods.

An aide said the full committee is scheduled to vote on the legislation today and that both houses of Congress, angered by the lack of progress in the talks with Japan, could pass



Nakasone and Reagan: "cordial" talks but retaliation threatened

the protectionist measure by the end of the week.

At the same time, it was learned that Mr Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, the Speaker of the House, planned to announce creation of a special trade task-force to review the Administration's handling of negotiations with Japan and to examine US fiscal policy on trade.

The task-force, an indication of the seriousness of the growing US trade problem as

shown by a deficit in 1984 of \$123 billion (£100 billion), will be headed by Mr Don Bonker, a Democrat from Washington as chairman, and Mr Sam Gibbons, a Florida Democrat who is chairman of the House Trade Subcommittee.

Tensions have increased in recent weeks after the decision by Japan to increase car exports to the United States this year and because of the continuing stalemate in negotiations aimed at opening markets to US goods

in four main areas: telecommunications, medical equipment, forestry products and electronics.

Last Friday, after reviewing the latest Japanese offer, the US Cabinet declared the measures insufficient and said further negotiations were necessary. It was then that President Reagan appointed a special envoy to take his personal message to Mr Nakasone.

US commerce officials said yesterday there had been some movement as a result of the Nakasone meeting in which the Prime Minister promised to intervene personally in the negotiations.

A team of Japanese negotiators arrived in Washington yesterday, but so far no new talks have been announced.

Mr Nakasone told the US mission he would announce next Tuesday a series of new measures to open up Japanese markets to western goods. But US officials said they regarded it as a "token gesture" involving Japanese purchases of American satellite equipment which would not affect the telecommunications talks.

Barclays attacks JMB package

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Sir Timothy Bevan, chairman of Barclays Bank, has expressed to the strong dissatisfaction among the clearing banks at being asked to put up money to cover losses at Johnson Matthey Bankers, the bullion bank rescued last year.

Referring to the £150 million indemnity scheme signed last week, which included £35 million from the clearing banks, Sir Timothy said in the Barclays annual report: "It would have been better if the support had been provided through the parent company, so that Johnson Matthey plc shareholders took virtually the whole burden."

However, Sir Timothy said he supported the decision to rescue JMB, and the indemnity agreement left Barclays with a chance of making a profit on the eventual sale of JMB offset against the support it has had to give Barclays' share of the indemnities, is £7.5 million.

Sir Timothy also criticized the Government's decision to extend the composite rate tax system to the banks instead of abolishing it. Referring to the changes in the tax treatment of leasing which wiped £543 million off the group's capital base, Sir Timothy said: "This seems illogical at a time when the Bank of England is encouraging the banking industry to increase its capital resources."

He noted that the bank's results last year were affected by the continuing heavy level of provisions and disclosed that specific provision in Hong Kong totalled £86 million.

At home, Sir Timothy said corporate profitability had improved "but further progress has to be made if industry is to generate the new products and sustain a surge in investment that are needed to transform the upturn into a full recovery."

Warburg to assist in Canadian sales

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

S. G. Warburg, the London merchant bank, has been appointed by the Canadian Government to help find buyers for three state-owned industries.

The three businesses - the aircraft manufacturers De Havilland and Canadair, and Eldorado Nuclear, a uranium mining and processing company.

Warburg is one of three investment banks charged with finding buyers for the three companies, which are being sold as part of Canada's new Conservative Government's policy of privatizations. The other two firms involved are Burns Fry of Toronto and Merrill Lynch of New York.

A feature of the sales is that the Canadian Government has told the banks it is prepared to consider seeing the two aircraft companies pass into 100 per cent foreign ownership if need be. It is likely to insist, however, on retaining a majority stake in the uranium business on national security of supply grounds. The sell-off policy is in

contrast to the aggressive Canadianization policies of the former Liberal Government.

Canadair, which manufactures a range of aircraft and surveillance systems, made net loss of CS194 million in 1983, the last year for which figures have been published.

De Havilland lost CS236 million in 1983 on sales of CS121 million. The bulk of the losses were attributable to the development costs of its Dash 8 commuter jet.

The Eldorado uranium company made a net profit of CS10 million.

Bank link with auditors urged

A formal relationship between bank auditors and the Bank of England should be established, according to a joint submission from the English and Scottish Institutes of Chartered Accountants to the committee reviewing the banking supervisory system.

Talbot and Iran revive car kit deal

By David Young Energy Correspondent

Talbot UK's contract to supply up to 75,000 cars a year in kit form to Iran is to be reactivated, with the Coventry company being paid in oil.

The contract was suspended seven weeks ago when the Iran Khodro company, which assembles the Talbot cars on the outskirts of Tehran, fell behind with payments after a national freeze on foreign spending.

Work resumed yesterday with the return of 1,000 staff who had been laid off. Supplies of the car kits, based on the Hillman Hunter (now out of production), are ready to leave the Coventry works and the Talbot terminal at Newport docks.

Under the new agreement Iran will pay for the kits in oil. The oil, twice according to Iran's official Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) price, structure, will be handled by Krupp Oil of Germany and sold on the spot market.

IN BRIEF

Retail sales rise 1.1%

Retail sales rose 1.1 per cent in February, according to final figures published yesterday. The volume index was 114.0 (1980=100) compared with January's 112.8 and a record 117.0 in December. New hire purchase credit fell from January's record level of £1,166 million to £1,015 million in February, although the underlying demand remains strong. Total advances in December to February were 10 per cent up on the previous quarter.

Retail sales in December to February were up by 1/2 per cent on the previous three months and 5 per cent on a year earlier.

Code change

A new edition of the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers will be published on April 19, the Takeover Panel said yesterday. It will lift the rule preventing bidders from declaring at the outset that they will not increase their offer.

The Royal Bank of Scotland cut its base rate from 13 1/2 per cent to 13 per cent. A spokesman said that the general trend in bank interest rates was downwards, though the movements were less obvious and less uniform than normal. Barclays and Midland have yet to respond to this trend.

Slough profit

Slough Estates' pretax profit for 1984 was £34.68 million compared with £20.18 million the previous year. The property portfolio is valued at £731 million, a £46.5 million rise with net asset value up to 198p from 179p. The final dividend is 4.8p, up from 4p in 1983. *Tempos, page 23*

50% pay rise

Mr David Plastow, chief executive of Vickers, is the latest company boss to collect a profits-related pay rise. His salary last year rose by 50 per cent to 121,005.

Fall for Planet

Planet Group, the window manufacturer, made taxable profits of £918,000 in 1984 against £1.75 million on sales up 10 per cent. *Tempos, page 23*

Oceonics offer

The board of Oceonics Group, the marine electronics to engineering concern, has put the business up for sale. *Tempos, page 23*

Queens Moat record

By Our City Staff

Mr John Baird, chairman of the provincial hotel chain Queens Moat Houses, announced record profits and a £25 million cash-raising exercise to finance growth yesterday.

Anyone who can't make money out of the hotel trade at the moment should not be in it," he said.

Last year's pretax profits jumped by 47 per cent to £6.5 million and bookings at its 59 hotels show prospects for this year look "excellent".

Mr Baird said that business and conference trade was buoyant.

The board is raising £25 million by way of a one-for-seven rights' issue of £1 convertible loan stock. It can be switched into ordinary shares at 66p each, against yesterday's market price of 57p, from 1988. The dividend goes up from 1.11p a share to 1.33p.

Dutch deal for Valin Pollen

Valin Pollen, the USM-quoted public relations consultancy, has made its first international acquisition in a planned creation of overseas office network.

It has purchased the Dutch corporate communications company Thomas & Kleyn. It will cost up to £2.41 million depending on profits from 1985 to 1987, with an initial payment of £353,000.

Grand Met buys Cinzano stake

By Cliff Feltham

Grand Metropolitan is expanding its drinks business. The company, through its International Distillers & Vintners wines and spirits arm, is taking a 25 per cent stake in Cinzano, the Italian vermouth and sparkling wine group.

No figure is being placed on the deal but in the year to last September, Cinzano recorded sales of about £250 million.

Observers believe that Grand Metropolitan may be paying up to £25 million for the stake which is being sold by 16nt, a Luxembourg-registered investment group which will continue

to retain a 25 per cent investment in Cinzano.

The deal will increase significantly the operations of IDV, which has sales of nearly £1,000 million a year.

In a separate drinks deal, Mr Jimmy Gulliver's Argill Group has sold its Loch Lomond distillery at Alexandria, Strathclyde, together with whisky stocks, to Inver House Distillers for £6.9 million.

The sale marks a decision by Argill's drinks offshoot, Amalgamated Distilled Products, to reduce its investment in scotch whisky production.

Grand Metropolitan stressed that there were many opportunities for IDV and Cinzano to combine resources to "build brands".

The company said: "There will also be increased profitability through their co-operation but the two businesses will retain their separate identities."

Count Alberto Marone Cinzano, chairman of Cinzano, will join the IDV board while Mr George Bull, chief executive of IDV, and Mr Neil McGowan, IDV's finance director, will represent IDV on the Cinzano International board.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES		CURRENCIES	
FT Ind Ord	983.8 (-0.5)	RIBEX:		London:	
FT-A All Share	N/A	Banliffe	28 +21	£: \$1.2215 (-0.0140)	
FT Govt Securities	80.95 (-0.26)	SalecTV	13 +2	£: DM 3.8040 (-0.0050)	
FT-SE 100	1278.3 (+1.3)	Castle GB	37 +4	£: SwFr 2.2105 (-0.0049)	
Dataseam USM	113.50 (+0.62)	Dufay Bitumastic	40 +4	£: FF 11.6050 (-0.0271)	
New York	1267.55 (+0.77)	Petrolux	83 +8	£: Yen 308.40 (-1.65)	
Tokyo	12,677.15 (+88.85)	Howard Machinery	11 +1	£ Index: 77.2 (unchanged)	
Hong Kong	1,388.13 (+1.09)	PCT Grp	178 +15	New York:	
Amsterdam	202.8 (+0.1)	Chloride	37 +3	£: \$1.2195	
Sydney: AO	629.7 (+3.8)	Microvide	78 +6	£: DM 3.1217	
Frankfurt	1,163.2 (+2.30)	Domillon Int	86 +8	£ Index: 146.6 (+0.7)	
Brussels:		Acorn Computer	29 +2		
General	248.70 (-2.86)	Reomore	22 1/2 +1 1/2		
Paris: CAC	211.4 (+0.4)	Carpet Int	53 +4		
Zurich:		Plastic Cons	84 +4		
SKA General	337.80 (-0.04)	Adam Leisure Grp	17 +1		
		Kwik-Fit Hds	35 +2		
GOLD		FALLS:		INTEREST RATES	
London fixing:		Reardon Smith "A"	12 -3	London:	
am \$324.85 pm \$327.10		Cosmos Grp	115 -25	Bank Base: 13-13 1/2	
close \$320.75 \$321.50 (\$282.25 - 203)		Lon & Man Secs	7 1/2 -1	3-month interbank 13 1/2-13 3/4	
New York:		Reardon Smith	24 -3	3-month eligible bills 12 1/2-12 3/4	
Comex \$319.85		Burnett & Halpin	80 -10	buying rate	
		Prince of Wales Hts	100 -12	US:	
		Tanjong Tin	225 -25	Prime Rate 10.50	
		Bio-Incubator	30 -3	Federal Funds 8 1/4	
		Bullough	251 -22	3-month Treasury Bills 8.17 - 8.13	
				Long bond 9 1/2-9 3/4	
				yield	

YESTERDAY ONE OF BRITAIN'S TEN LARGEST FIRMS OF ACCOUNTANTS CEASED TO EXIST.

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TEMPUS

Oceonics in search of wealthy marriage partner

For sale: one diversified but high technology-related business. Well located for future growth, but needs substantial investment to realize full potential. Would suit cash-rich company with interests in similar areas. One previous owner prepared to assist with improvements. Market value has fallen, but no reasonable offer will be refused. Serious enquiries only, with view to early sale, to Oceonics.

It is not every day that a fully quoted company puts itself on the market, and although Oceonics might not have chosen those precise words for an advertisement it is a fair reflection of what the company is doing.

Oceonics' problem is that it will not be able to raise, of its own accord, the funds it needs to finance the group's development programme. It is to £20 million could be needed in the next two or three years if the company is to press ahead with a series of potentially profitable, but cash hungry, projects. A rights issue is out of the question. Not only has the share price slipped to 115p from its 370p peak of 18 months ago when it got its full listing, but with 51 per cent in the hands of two directors, the dilution and cost for them became prohibitive.

Further borrowings were also out of the question. Gearing will have risen from 50 per cent to about 70 per cent in the financial year which ended on Sunday. The option to reduce the rate of development was also deemed to be unacceptable and thus the "for sale" sign has gone up.

It is certainly an unusual approach and if Oceonics is such a bargain it is surprising that nobody noticed this before. The company has shrugged suitors off in the past but felt disinclined to approach potential buyers on a more discreet basis now that it is ready for a sale.

Although the company denies that it has gone too far and spread its interests too wide too quickly, the need to find a partner suggests otherwise. Its share price performance has been depressed by the downturn in profits from its marine activities and in the year just ended only a marginal increase on the £3.2 million returned last time can now be expected.

This is well below most market forecasts and accounts in some way for the drop in the share price down 22p at 115p having been 145p ahead of the announcement. Profits, in the end, mean more than promises.

Planet Group

Planet Group's 1984 figures look grim - a pretax profits slump of 47 per cent to £918,000 and an attributable loss of £685,000 against a profit of £118,000 - but without the drain of the now sold Luxembourg operations the recovery

potential is excellent. Luxembourg caused a total loss of £1.05 million, with the write-down on property values taken before the proceeds of the sale come through this year.

This year the US should benefit from lower aluminium prices, which cost about £600,000 in 1984 and caused an 11 per cent drop in operating profits, as well as steadily rising sales of recreational vehicles.

The UK has got off to a firm start. Percy Lane which supplies vehicle windows, should break even this year against a loss of around £200,000, and the companies supplying commercial buildings continue to do well. Since the year end Planet has sold its vacant Luton factory for £232,000 and a US company for £10,000 (£8,000).

Record profits of about £2.2 million look possible, which gives a prospective p/e ratio of nearly nine on shares at 80p. Tax will still be too high at 60 per cent, but the accountants are hard at work trying to reduce it. The yield is 4.9 per cent.

Slough Estates

Slough Estates, the largest quoted developer of industrial property in Britain and rumoured to be a potential bidder for Stock Conversion, turned in results above brokers' expectations.

More surprising is the revaluation of the property portfolio, which has resulted in a rise of £46.5 million to £731 million and boosted net asset value to 189p a share. Stripping out currency gains on overseas properties - a staggering £26 million of the £30 million surplus - and allowing for the acquisition of the Guildhall/Allnatt portfolio, leaves British properties showing a surplus of £16 million. It is this figure that caused raised eyebrows in the property market.

The performance of industrial property last year was less than exciting except for high technology schemes in the South-east - particularly the Slough area. But the Slough Trading Estate has few developments of this type as yet.

Indeed, many of the ageing premises on the vast 7.6 million sq ft scheme are in need of refurbishment, a process which is slowly being undertaken.

The company has yet to come to grips with the Guildhall/Allnatt purchase, made last year. The portfolio has potential if aggressively managed, but there is little sign of this yet although £2.5 million was raised from sales last year.

Slough considers that it will take another year or two before it reaps the rewards of the acquisition which is meanwhile incurring extra interest charges. Shareholders again receive a 20 per cent rise in dividend. The shares were 135p up 5p.

Ocean Transport shares at eight-year high

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

John Swire and Sons, the big Far Eastern trading group which embraces Cathay Pacific Airways, emerged yesterday as a likely bidder for the Ocean Transport and Trading shipping fleet.

OTT shares steamed ahead a further 6p to 189p, making a 20p gain since rumours of a possible bid started to circulate last week. The shares are now at their highest point for eight years.

Sir Jeffrey Sterling's P and O shipping group is also thought to be interested in OTT. Its shares have been making heavy weather of it since talk of a possible OTT bid started. John Swire, which claims to be the largest British based overseas trading group, is known to be keen to expand.

The company, which is privately owned, is adopting a much higher profile these days. Its last set of profits showed a 28 per cent increase to £48.5 million.

Most of its interests are in the Far East although it has activities in Australia and the United States. Its British operation include a 28.9 per cent share holding in James Finlay, the international trading and plantation group which is often tipped as a takeover target.

P and O shares were unchanged at 346p yesterday. Equities have still to register a gain in this three week Account. Yesterday the FT 30 share index maintained its

dismal Easter record by falling 0.5 points to 936.3 points. But the more broadly based FT-SE share index was just a shade more enthusiastic, rising 1.3 points to 1,279.3 points.

Trading was exceedingly quiet with bed and breakfast deals creating much of the business. Elsewhere it was left to takeover speculation to provide what little action occurred.

Even British Aerospace, as the presentations get underway

Shares of Bridport-Candry are riding at a 134p peak as the market expects the negotiator to achieve record profits this year. It has just announced interim figures of £546,000 and Margeris and Addenbrooke, the broker, is predicting £2.1 million for the year against £1.5 million.

for the Government sell-off was unchanged at 423p. A pilot prospectus will be out soon and impact day will occur soon after Easter.

Besides the normal inactivity which occurs in the second leg of a three week account, continuing worries about rights issues tended to cloud sentiment.

The encouraging CBI survey had little impact with the reluctance of two of the big four clearing banks to cut their base rates causing a little unease.

Government stocks, in slack trading, retreated up to 13p. Oils were mixed. But New

London Oil, the latest issue from W. Greenwell, the broker, got off to a flying start, touching 210p against a 175p placing price. The day's other new-comer, Associated Steel Distributors, traded at 166p, against a 155p placing price.

Tricentral, the oil group, gained 5p to 238p as takeover speculation mounted with the mysterious 4 per cent shareholding thought to have moved into firm hands. Ultramar gained 12p to 240p, prompting some to ponder the possibility of it descending on Tricentral.

On the stores pitches, interest focused on Bostells, the department store chain which has been highlighted by analysts as a potential takeover candidate. The shares jumped 21p to 88p. Property assets of the family-run group are now estimated to be as high as 200p a share.

Albert Fisher, the fruit and vegetable merchants rose 6p to 130p. It reports half-year results

next week. The company is fancied as a bid target, and there has been plenty of volatility in the share price in recent months.

Home Charm, which last week reported a more than 50 per cent jump in profits for 1984, stayed popular, rising 8p to 300p. The company operates in the DIY market, running the successful Texas Homecare chain.

Feemans, the mail order group, was hurt by the threat of a national postal strike. The shares dropped 10p to 198p, and others in the same line of business were similarly affected. Empire Stores fell 4p to 98p and Grattan slipped 6p to 170p.

Booker McConnell shares dipped 2p to 248p as Dee Corporation disclosed that it had only received acceptances on behalf of 5.3 per cent of Booker shares for its takeover offer. Dee shares rose 1p to 211p.

Pearson shares jumped 15p

to 705p as market men grew eager to see today's full-year results. The group, which has wide-ranging interests including merchant banking, publishing and manufacturing, made £77.4 million in 1984, and City forecasts for 1984 were for £100 million and more.

Low and Bonar, the packaging, engineering and textiles group, fell 12p as investors took profits after the run-up for the share price. There have been

stake build-up by Mr Christopher Selmes continues. His Bajaj investment vehicle now has 15.7 per cent of Turiff, having held 8.2 per cent a week ago. Since that time shares in the construction group have edged higher, up from 315p to 340p, though they were unchanged yesterday. Mr Selmes is still best remembered in the City for his controversial approach to finance in the 1970s.

Matthew Brown, the brewer which is being bid for by Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, was unchanged at 443p as the British Rail Pension Fund disclosed that it has sold 1.45 million of the shares it held in Brown. Meanwhile, Whitbread Investment has picked up still more shares and now holds just over 9 per cent of Browns. Brown shares were unchanged at 443p.

Shares in Manor National, the car dealership business, were suspended yesterday at 12 1/2p. A bid worth £2.3 million, from C D Brammhall, was said to have been agreed back in February, but market men now fear trouble has arisen again. The two companies had merger talks last year which failed.

On the USM lists, Monument Oil & Gas shares were unchanged at 25p as investors wait to see where the share stake sold by Bristol Oil & Minerals has gone. Bristol sold a chunk of Monument shares last week and yesterday announced the sale of its remaining 6,289,790 shares.

Traded option highlights

The traded options market showed the low level of genuine investment business around. The floor had its worst trading day for many months, with total contracts traded reaching just 3,985.

No one option stood out from the others, in terms of volume of business, but there were some significant price movements around. BAT Industries saw up to 12p put on the price of May

and August call options, while put contracts lost up to 10p. RTZ May 700 puts rose 18p, to an offer price of 60p, and May 550 calls lost 13p to 114p. May 600 calls in RTZ were down 12p to 70p, while up to 10p was lost from August and November contracts. Shell calls rose by up to 10p, and 800 puts were down by around 10p to 12p on August, July and November contracts.

Electronic Machine Company rose 1p to 53p as Mr John Cawthorne disclosed a 7.25 per cent holding in the company. United Spring & Steel got a similar lift, up 1/2p to 19 1/2p, as Mr Brian Fenwick-Smith revealed that he now holds 9.4 per cent of the company's shares. At Turiff Corporation, the

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Wherever the Red Arrows fly they boost our reputation along with their own, because the aircraft they use to reach new heights in the art of precision flying is the British Aerospace Hawk.

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fighter version due to fly mid 1986.

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British Aerospace is one of Britain's largest exporters of manufactured goods. Last year over 60% of the company's total sales were to overseas customers.

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In January it was announced that an offer of shares in the Company was proposed. If you would like to find out more about us, send for a copy of our illustrated Fact Sheet.

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COMPAGNIE BANCAIRE

Société Anonyme
Incorporated in France with limited liability.
Regd. Office: 5 avenue Kléber, Paris 16ème.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The shareholders of Compagnie Bancaire are invited to attend:

The Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday, 25th April, 1985 at 3.00 p.m. at the Head Office, 5 avenue Kléber, Paris 16ème, and

An Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on the same date and at the same place on the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting, to consider the following agenda:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- The Report of the Board of Management.
- The Report of the Supervisory Board.
- The general report of the Auditors.
- The special report of the Auditors in accordance with Article 143 of the Law of 24th July, 1966.
- The examination and approval of the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the financial period 1984.
- The appropriation of profits and the fixing of the dividend.
- The renewal of the mandates of four members of the Supervisory Board.
- The nomination of a member to the Supervisory Board.
- The authorization given to the Board of Management to issue bonds to a total of fr. 5 billion.
- Any other business.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- The Report of the Board of Management.
- The Report of the Auditors.
- To approve in accordance with the Act of 8th July, 1984 that 1st January, 1987 be the date on which all shares acquired by staff members under the share option scheme 1981 will become available for disposal.
- To authorize the Board of Management to grant subscription options to the employees of the Company or its subsidiaries, pursuant to the Act of 31st December, 1970 as amended by the Act of 8th July, 1984.
- To authorize the Board of Management to increase the share capital up to fr. 2 billion through the issuing of shares paid for by the incorporation of reserves or by cash payments.
- To agree and then adopt new by-laws in accordance with the various laws now in force.
- Any other business.

In order to attend or be represented at the Meeting, owners of registered shares must have been entered on the register five clear days prior to the Meeting. Holders of bearer shares must deposit at least five clear days prior to the Meeting at the Head Office, the certificate of deposit, issued by the bank, financial institution or stockbroker with whom the shares are lodged.

Shareholders who wish to attend the Meeting are requested to make advance application to the Company for an admission card.

Base Lending Rates

An important announcement to our stockholders:

Copies of the 1984 Annual Report of Citicorp can now be obtained from:

Citibank, N.A., 336 Strand, London WC2R 1HB, telephone 438 1599 between the hours of 9.30am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Postal applications should be addressed for the attention of the Librarian.

CITIBANK CITICORP

SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

NOTICE OF MEETING

NORTH: IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 12th Annual General Meeting of the Members will be held at 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 2NQ, on Wednesday 24th April, 1985 at Noon to transact the ordinary business of the Society.

Additionally, the following Resolution will be proposed as a Special Resolution in terms of Section 11 of the Companies Act 1947:

"That Regulation 14 of the Regulations of the Society be altered by the deletion of the word 'twelve' and the substitution thereof of the word 'fifteen'."

The effect of the foregoing Resolution will be to increase the maximum number of Directors from twelve to fifteen.

By Order of the Directors,
150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 2NQ
14th March, 1985



FINANCIAL SERVICES

Big is beautiful for merging building societies

The number of building societies has been shrinking steadily this century. One of the main reasons has been the merging of very small societies or their absorption by large societies. But now the pressures are increasing for medium-sized and big societies to combine. Richard Thomson examines the trend and looks at the problems involved in large mergers.

The building society merger game seems to be hotting up. Last Friday, the Cheltenham & Gloucester, the 12th largest society, announced plans to merge with the tiny Waltham Abbey Society. However, last Monday one of the largest planned mergers between societies, the Leeds Permanent and the Leeds & Holbeck, was called off. It was the second merger to fail this year.

For more than 100 years there has been a steady shrinkage in building society numbers through mergers. In 1974 there were 416 societies, compared with 187 now. The reduction was caused mainly by mergers.

In the last five years there have been 88 mergers. Among the largest was the merger in 1981 which created the National & Provincial, the sixth biggest society.

In 1982 The Anglia combined with the London and South of England, creating a society with £2.6 billion in assets after it had absorbed the Hastings and Thanet four years before.

Clearly the urge to merge is strong and getting stronger. Until recently the received wisdom in the industry has been that the rate of mergers will become a flood. Some experts have even predicted a shrinkage to only 10 societies by the end of the decade.

The impetus behind this was expected to be the increasingly competitive atmosphere in the savings industry and the changes heralded by the green paper last year which provides enormous incentives for

societies to expand to take advantage of new opportunities.

The green paper favours size. It says for example, that societies may not indulge in activities such as unsecured lending and owning property beyond 10 per cent of their free assets. For small societies this limit will make any move into new areas so small as to be uneconomic, but big societies will be able to challenge existing operators in these fields. Ten per cent of the Halifax's assets for instance would amount to about £2 billion.

While there will probably always be a place for the small local society with local ties and a limited scope of business, in the new environment big will usually be better.

This is certainly the case with the medium-sized societies which cannot possibly match the colossal resources of the Halifax or the Abbey National, but which are still big enough to be direct competitors. The coming merger between the Alliance and Leicester, both large second-rank societies in terms of size, is the most obvious example of this so far.

The advantages of a merger almost certainly outweigh possible disadvantages. True, many mergers do not lead to dramatic cost-cutting, but if a society is to go into new areas of business when legislation allows (such as estate agencies, insurance-brokerage, conveyancing, or selling shares), extra size and market muscle is likely to keep the new costs lower than they would otherwise have been, say several society chiefs.



Scott Darward: likely to take sole control

The Nottingham, one of the technologically most innovative with its Homelink service, is known to want links with other societies for this reason. Although it has not revealed the exact cost, it is clear that Homelink has been an expensive venture for a small society.

The kind of branch and product spread aimed at by the Alliance and Leicester move is likely to make good sense in the long run. With one society based in the Midlands and one in Brighton and the South-east there is not much overlap in their branch networks.

And while the Alliance has its Banksave account arrangement with the Bank of Scotland, the Leicester offers a different special service in its Leicester-card tie-up with post offices.

Size will further help societies in areas such as money market borrowing. At present it is only the largest societies which can realistically borrow much wholesale money and all the "big five" have done so. The

Halifax is the largest borrower, with £800 million outstanding.

The reasons in favour of an increasing number of mergers, therefore, would seem to be strong. But although the spirit may be willing among building societies, the flesh appears to be weak.

There is increasing evidence that the practicalities of achieving a successful consummation are often defeating building society managers.

Some of the problems were well illustrated by last week's debacle in Leeds. Both societies had a healthy majority of investors in favour of a merger: the Leeds Permanent had 95 per cent and the Leeds & Holbeck 83 per cent. Yet the plans were called off because of administrative hitches. Neither society managed to notify all its members of the merger details.

Clearly there are problems in keeping track of all investors' changes of address or account, particularly for the Leeds Permanent, which has more than 2.75 million members. But the ability to do this is, after all, part of the bread and butter of building society business.

Even before this the Leeds Permanent had committed a considerable publicity blunder. A significant section of investors was offended by the society's intention to pay golden handshakes worth £62,000 to two non-executive directors, aged 69 and 70, who were about to retire with pensions in any case.

Another merger, between the Heart of England and the Coventry, was announced in January and then abandoned a month later.

It is not entirely clear what happened in this case except that the societies were surprised by the complexities of a combination. One of the first problems with any merger is to satisfy the ambitions of the principal managers.



Roy Cox: retiring at the end of the year

The Cheltenham & Gloucester has solved the problem with Waltham Abbey simply by allowing it to form a local board for the moment.

The Alliance and Leicester have a more ticklish problem in that they are virtual equals. Their solution so far is to have joint chief general managers. But since Mr Roy Cox of the Alliance retires at the end of this year, Mr Scott Darward of the Leicester can take over sole control from then on.

But while the chiefs may settle these questions over lunch, the Indians may get restless.

One senior manager involved in the Alliance-Leicester move said: "At first many of the staff on both sides were not keen about the merger and this could have caused problems. Fortunately, as time goes on they are getting more enthusiastic."

The sort of difficulties staff have to contend with is the harmonization of adminis-

trative methods between two merging societies. Since part of the aim of a merger is to share each other's investors and their deposits, this is crucial. And when each society has well over a million separate accounts, there are considerable problems. The same is true of administering the lending side of the business.

The compatibility of each society's computer system is therefore an essential element. Buying new computer equipment is expensive and could involve staff retraining. In the Leeds Permanent case, for example, both societies use the same brand of computer hardware.

The same senior executive said: "We both use Burroughs equipment so the computer match is good. And the staff in both societies are trained in the same computer language, so no retraining is needed. This was one of the main points that persuaded us towards a merger. We had already spent a lot of money on our computer system and did not want to start again."

Even if the practical difficulties are solved there are still policy decisions to be made. How, for example, are differing rates of interest between two societies to be harmonized?

The tendency has been to end up with the lower rate paid to investors, but this prospect caused problems with Leeds & Holbeck investors who were paid more than those at the Leeds Permanent.

And when the Woolwich took over the New Cross last year it took many months to sort out the problem of those New Cross borrowers who were found to be paying up to 18 per cent.

How many of these reasons entered into this year's merger failures is not clear. But it is evident that building society managers still have much to learn about the merger process.

BARCLAYS 1984

Record profits in a difficult year.

Extracts from the address by the Chairman, Sir Timothy Bevan, in the Report and Accounts.

1984 was a difficult year for the banking industry and our pre-tax profit of £655m—18 per cent up on 1983—while it was a record, was not as much as we had hoped to achieve.

The good trading results continue to be affected by the provision for bad and doubtful debts. Specific and general provisions at home continue to be high. Sovereign risk figures compare favourably with our main international banking competitors.

Our capital position has improved and the prospective rights issue should provide a further £507m.

Help for Industry

1984 saw a rise in the number of business failures despite the fact that it was the fourth year of the economic upturn that began in the Spring of 1981.

The increase in the failure rate is now slowing down; but the loss of jobs caused by the high level of failures, although partially offset by the growing number of new businesses, is a sign that the problems of industry have still to be overcome. Profitability has risen from the low level of recent years, but further progress has to be made if industry is to generate the new products and the sustained surge in investment that are needed to transform the upturn into a full recovery. The rise in employment in the service trades among the self employed is encouraging, but unemployment overall has still to fall. The effect of the shake out since 1980, particularly in manufacturing industry, is still being felt, especially in smaller businesses.

We have given exceptional help to keep firms going through the recession, often beyond the traditional limits of prudent banking; inevitably, some of these risks prove bad, but it is right that we should do all we reasonably can to help them

through difficult times and back to health and vigour. This must be good for employment and the economy.

Competition and Service

Competition in the High Street grows fiercer by the year, especially in the struggle for a share of private deposits.

Our chief weapon in the competition battle must be the quality of our service. To this end we have continued to modify our branch network, with more of our offices concentrating their efforts, some on the corporate market and some on the personal customer.

This is a process which will take some years to complete, but in the meantime we are mounting an ambitious programme to improve our service generally, building on the success of our Personal Bankers Scheme and on Saturday morning opening—and I notice our competitors are now following this example which we set some three years ago.

Turning to the reorganisation of your Bank, in 1984 the necessary legislation received Parliamentary approval and the new unified Bank came into operation on the 1st January 1985. It is early days yet, but our short experience is encouraging.

Timothy Bevan

Sir Timothy Bevan, Chairman, Barclays PLC, 1st March 1985.

The Barclays Report and Accounts gives a comprehensive review of the Group's activities in the UK and around the world. To obtain a copy, just send this coupon to the address below:

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A Year of Good Results

Highlights from the Statement of the Chairman, Mr E. I. Japhet, KBE, at the Bank's Annual General Meeting

- 1984 has been a year of good results. Total assets increased by 12% to £361.8 million. Capital funds amounted to £15.5 million.
- Net Profit after tax and transfer to inner reserves reached £820,000, an increase of 15%. Final dividend will be 7.00 pence per share making a total for the year of 10.15 pence (1983—10.15 pence). Shareholders will be offered an option of receiving in respect of the final dividend either cash or fully paid ordinary shares.
- The increase in net profit has been achieved after charging the whole of the substantial additional taxation arising out of the 1984 Finance Act.
- At the end of 1984 Leeds Representative Office was upgraded to a full branch.
- The higher volume of bilateral trade between the UK and Israel was reflected in the increased business of the bank.

Branches in the West End, the City, Edgware, Golders Green, Gants Hill, Ilford, and also in Leeds.

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ALBRIGHT & WILSON 1984 RESULTS

	1984	1983
Sales	569.4	570.2
Trading profit	41.4	41.3
Capital expenditure	35.0	24.5
Net capital employed (end of year)	267.2	223.9
Return on capital (average)	16.9%	17.9%
Number of employees (end of year)	6,300	6,300

These figures relate to the Group managed by Albright & Wilson, including companies owned directly by Tarnaco.

- Following the disposal of three businesses in 1983, sales of continuing operations on a comparable basis increased in 1984 by 12% and profits increased by 14%.
- UK profits were slightly lower mainly because of the higher cost of key raw materials. Exports from the UK were \$115 million, a new peak for A&W—38% of sales by UK operations.
- Overseas subsidiaries increased their sales and profits and accounted for 75% of Group profit before interest and tax.
- Tarnaco Organics, part of Finesse & Organics Division, gained The Queen's Award for Export Achievement.
- Capital expenditure increased in the UK and overseas, with 60% of total expenditure overseas. The main emphasis was on modernising and expanding phosphate and detergent plants in the UK, and sodium chloride and phosphorus plants in Canada.
- There were significant developments by our associated companies in S.E. Asia. A new factory was opened for sodium tripolyphosphate in Thailand and a phosphoric acid plant was commissioned in the Philippines.
- Rationalisation moves begun in 1983 were completed, with the closure of the Stratford (London) factory and transfer of main production units to Oldbury.

Copies of the Review of the Year may be obtained from Corporate Public Relations Department at the address given below.

ALBRIGHT & WILSON LTD Building on Quality
11 Knightsbridge Green, London SW1X 7QD.

Albright & Wilson is a Tarnaco company.

Errant clubs face the penalty of a sharp kick from Thatcher

By David Miller

English football vandals, in parallel with some of the more prominent clubs with whom they provocatively align themselves, have international as well as domestic engagements. Mr Thatcher's more senior Ministers in announcing yesterday the intended remedies to be undertaken, showed resolution and commitment on the home front but revealed a traditional uncertainty, like England's World Cup team, about playing overseas. I suspect that they may need to revise their away tactics but this is not to say they should sack the manager.

Mr Thatcher will be writing, before the end of the week, to the Football Association chairman and Football League president confirming the details which, beneath all the assertions of goodwill between Government and football, contain some necessary sharp penalties for errant clubs. Unfortunately, neither Tim Othy Renton, the Under Secretary of State at the Scottish Office, nor Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, were in a position, despite exhaustive past efforts, to guarantee stricter control and more severe penalties for the vandals who pillage foreign cities.

Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, talked of the possibility of criminal sentences being imposed by British courts for offenders sent home by foreign countries reluctant to deal with them. Yet the only solution is a total ban on ticket sales for overseas matches by

Football has been given six weeks to combat hooliganism or risk Government intervention. Representatives of the Football Association and Football League were told this at a meeting with the Prime Minister yesterday. The six points agreed at the meeting were:

1. Installation of improved fencing at grounds.
2. Installation of closed circuit television cameras at first and second division grounds.
3. An investigation into the feasibility of club membership card schemes to be completed in six weeks.
4. An increase in the number of all-ticket matches.
5. More family enclosures.
6. An examination of the FA rule 31 stating that clubs must take "all reasonable precautions" to prevent crowd trouble.

both the team from Britain and, equally important, the foreign club of football, who are too frequently commercially motivated to sell at the gate on match day.

The only moment when it seemed that the Government may not wholly understand the domestic problem was when Michael Ancram, an Under Secretary of State at the Scottish Office, suggested that the switching of the England-Scotland fixture to Hampden "was a compliment to Glasgow". Householders in Wembley who have experienced 15 incomprehensible men in taitan urinating in their front garden would find puzzling such a line of reason.

The FA have promised the Prime Minister to do nothing they should not have been trying to do for the past 15 years; and, to be fair, in some instances, have been trying. Effective perimeter fencing of pitches, closed circuit tele-

vision, trouble-spotters, supporters' membership cards, more all-ticket matches, special family enclosures (for specially brave families), and stronger disciplinary powers against clubs are all actions overdue or ignored.

The slow and reluctant introduction of fencing has reflected a belief that football people are not criminal; and, for example, fully exploited close circuit television more than 10 years ago. Some of us would be pleased to see, as a seventh point of the FA's responsibilities, firmer reaction against players' bad behaviour. Deliberately provocative gestures at the crowd or referee should carry a mandatory, not a discretionary, Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, stressed that the extent to which the FA were prepared to act "would govern the Government's inter-

vention". He agreed that if certain clubs proved incapable of taking effective steps they might as an extreme step have to be closed. Mr Brittan, discussing his imminent review of public order legislation, would not specifically deny the possibility that local authorities could acquire the power to ban a football match but said the intention was for legislation "to be of assistance to football". Yet the threat is there and it is necessary and legitimate. Football is an estimable and traditional facet of society, no less than the public bar, but extremists, political or social, have to be halted. It is to be applauded that the Government have not sought the populist curb of banning alcohol sales inside grounds among social club members in private areas, a valuable source of finance. Both the alcohol and increased safety regulations will be as designated at specific grounds rather than a blanket legislation.

Mr Brittan and Mr Jenkins were anxious to say that the hooligan scourge was a joint responsibility with the football authorities. It is to be welcomed that the Government have finally stood up to be counted. What everyone in football must regret is that there was not a generous gesture from an absent Minister, Nigel Lawson. A reduction of only half a per cent in the 42.5 per cent tax on football pools would yield £2.5 million a year to help the game solve its ills.

Bagnoli staying with Verona

Verona's point from a 1-1 draw with Sampdoria in Genoa and the surprising 2-1 defeat of Internazionale at Udinese make it more likely than ever that the "blues and yellows" will win their first Italian League title, an astonishing triumph for so small a club.

Bagnoli, their shrewd, introverted manager, took them out of the second division and season by season, broods Hamlet-like, on whether he should sign for the club again. The beautiful city had been going mad with suspense but now he says he will take them to the European Cup. It was said that he prefers to raise small provincial teams from obscurity; that he might again go down to the second division with doomed Cremonese with whose president he recently spent a day.

The European Cup? "We might get Everton in the first round," he counters darkly. The Verona players, once they have passed 36 points, are on a bonus of nearly £7,000 a win and their point at Sampdoria on Sunday made it 36. Little Galanteri scored Verona's goal after five minutes and has been picked for the Italian squad to play Portugal. He is a happy-go-lucky Bagnoli is staying.

In an astonishing World Cup match last Sunday, Uruguay, seemingly one of the strongest contenders in South America, lost 2-0 away to Ecuador, and will be out of the tournament if they do not beat Chile in Montevideo on Sunday. Chile beat Uruguay 2-0 in Santiago and, with their veteran forward Carlos Caszary, recalled after years in Spain, Chile will contest yet another World Cup Uruguay may yet finish second in the group, earning the right to play-off with the runner-up in another South American section.

The odd thing about World Cup, which receive France in a World Cup eliminator tomorrow, is that they find it so much easier to score goals away than at home. They were held 0-0 by Belgium in their opening match and, in their most recent one, had a paltry 1-0 victory over feeble Luxembourg. In the meantime they had won by the odd goal in five in East Germany.

Million Milutinovic's reborn team have to show their away form if they are to get the better of a French side which dazzled in midfield when winning 2-0 at home to East Germany. With Platini and Tigana in superb form, the attack should be plenty of the ball, though it still rains doubts.

France clearly intend to persist with Bellocq, who has been left out of the squad who scored their second goal in the European Championship final.



World Football Brian Glanville

but seldom scores for his club, and young Stopyra, the centre-forward, has done so well since moving to Toulouse. He scored against East Germany.

Romania's main World Cup group rivals, also play at home in the tournament tomorrow. They should have little trouble in crushing demoralized Turkey. Mircea Lucescu, Romania's manager, will be looking for increasing maturity in his young lions, such as Hagit.

The collapse of the North American Soccer League and the triumph of that horrid hybrid, indoor football may seriously affect the hopes of the 1986 World Cup qualifying for the 1986 World Cup final. The US team, who receive England in Los Angeles next June, have negotiated the Netherlands Antilles (0-0, 4-0) and must now, in May, play group 2 CONCACAF games against Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana.

Not the most taxing matches in the world, you might think but May is the merry month of the indoor league play-offs. They seem immune to the dictates of FIFA and such players as the club captain, Ricky Davis, once of the Cosmos but now an odd man in St Louis, could be in 1978, West Germany, in the World Cup, in Argentina, were deprived of Franz Beckenbauer. He was, in fact, in the shadows of the new and not the old New York Cosmos.

Brian Glanville is Football Correspondent of the Sunday Times.

WORLD LEAGUE RESULTS

ALBANIA: Dinamo 1, Tofani 1; Partizani 1, Vllaznia 1; Naftari 1, Luftetari 1; Luleziti 1, Flamurtari 1; Beselista 2, Besa 0; Lokomotiva 3, Shkenderi 0.

AUSTRIA: Linz 1, Austria 0; Rapid Vienna 1, Wiener Sportklub 0; Sturm Graz 4, Vienna 0; Austria Vienna 1, Austria Vienna 0.

BELGIUM: Anderlecht 1, Club Brugge 0; Standard Liege 1, FC Brugge 0; Anderlecht 1, Club Brugge 0; Anderlecht 1, Club Brugge 0.

BULGARIA: Levski 1, Slavia Sofia 0; Levski 1, Slavia Sofia 0; Levski 1, Slavia Sofia 0.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Slavia Praha 1, Bohemians 0; Slavia Praha 1, Bohemians 0; Slavia Praha 1, Bohemians 0.

FRANCE: AS Saint-Etienne 1, AS Saint-Etienne 0; AS Saint-Etienne 1, AS Saint-Etienne 0.

GERMANY: Borussia Dortmund 1, Borussia Dortmund 0; Borussia Dortmund 1, Borussia Dortmund 0.

HUNGARY: Honved 1, Honved 0; Honved 1, Honved 0.

ITALY: Fiorentina 1, Fiorentina 0; Fiorentina 1, Fiorentina 0.

JUGOSLAVIA: Partizan 1, Partizan 0; Partizan 1, Partizan 0.

NETHERLANDS: Feyenoord 1, Feyenoord 0; Feyenoord 1, Feyenoord 0.

PORTUGAL: Sporting Lisbon 1, Sporting Lisbon 0; Sporting Lisbon 1, Sporting Lisbon 0.

ROMANIA: Dinamo 1, Dinamo 0; Dinamo 1, Dinamo 0.

SCOTLAND: Rangers 1, Rangers 0; Rangers 1, Rangers 0.

SPAIN: Real Madrid 1, Real Madrid 0; Real Madrid 1, Real Madrid 0.

SWEDEN: IFK Goteborg 1, IFK Goteborg 0; IFK Goteborg 1, IFK Goteborg 0.

SWITZERLAND: Servette 1, Servette 0; Servette 1, Servette 0.

UNITED STATES: Cosmos 1, Cosmos 0; Cosmos 1, Cosmos 0.

URUGUAY: Peñarol 1, Peñarol 0; Peñarol 1, Peñarol 0.

YUGOSLAVIA: Red Star 1, Red Star 0; Red Star 1, Red Star 0.

ATHLETICS

Red faces at ITV launch

By Pat Butcher

There will have to be some dousing of egos and crossing of swords before ITV can claim victory in the great race to television British athletics. Not only have the contracts yet to be signed, but there was some embarrassment at yesterday's press conference to launch five years of exclusive domestic coverage (apart from the London Marathon on April 21) when it was discovered that the International Athletics Club, one of the partners in the enterprise, had not been invited.

A future list also revealed that the IAC race specialists, including the IAC's Cider, before they had had a chance to divulge it at their own press conference.

The crunch will come when ITV show what they can do on April 1, with the Bank-Hero 100m road race in Battersea Park, especially when the last BBC presentation, the Newcastle city centre 5km race last Wednesday, a similar event, was well covered.

The most significant achievement

SNOW REPORTS

The following reports have been supplied by a journalist board:			
	Depth (cm)	Time of page	°C
L			
AUSTRIA			
Alpbach	0	60	4
Brand	0	120	4
Merano	0	60	16
Salzburg	0	75	-3
St. Anton	30	220	1
St. Moritz	0	15	8
St. Ulrich	0	30	1
FRANCE			
Chamonix	20	420	
Courchevel			
Les Deux		180	
2000			
Les Pignes		115	
2000			
St. Zeno	60	140	

Howlett's ball will be started at Whistock's yard in Woodbridge at the beginning of May, followed by the Hellen/Wallis/NMI boat two months later. They should both be sailing off Perth around the end of the year.

John Nicholls

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS ☎ 01-278 0668

Our client is a major City law firm.

The Commercial Department provides a service for the full range of trading activities of Corporate clients including: UK and EEC anti-trust law, agency and distribution agreements, joint ventures, non-contentious intellectual property law, private company assets/share acquisitions and disposals and technology law.

Another Solicitor is required, admitted 1-4 years, who possesses experience in one or more of the above areas and who seeks demanding and interesting work of high quality in a sociable environment.

Salary, benefits and career prospects are in keeping with a firm of international standing and opportunities exist to work in the firm's overseas offices.

In the first instance please write to or telephone Denis Reed at The Room Twelve Partnership, Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London EC4Y 0HP. 01-583 4847/4929.

ROOM TWELVE

Recruitment of Lawyers

Commercial Lawyer

1-4 years Admitted

Major City Firm

Solicitor Notts

The National Coal Board have a team of lawyers based at Eastwood, Nottingham. This team handles a wide and interesting range of legal work on behalf of the formations of the Board based in the East Midlands.

A vacancy for a Solicitor has arisen and the Board are seeking applicants of high calibre. The successful applicant will probably, although not necessarily, be young, he or she will have an above-average academic record, coupled with energy and enthusiasm and be capable of handling a variety of legal work, much of it calling for a combination of a high level of legal ability and flair. Initially the work will be largely in the property field.

The starting salary, in the range of £10,555-£18,534 would be in line with the high level of ability required, and the career prospects are excellent.

Please write for an application form, to be returned no later than 17th April to:-

THE LAW SOCIETY

ASSISTANT SECRETARY CONTENTIOUS BUSINESS

£13,425-£19,154 p.a.

The Contentious Business Department handles for The Law Society all issues in the contentious business field, including law and procedure reform, costs and the profession's remuneration. The Department provides information and advice to the profession and promotes the policies of the many committees it services.

A vacancy exists for a Solicitor of several years' experience who can join a committed team, and help service particularly the Society's Criminal Law Committee. Experience in a legal aid practice and as a criminal advocate would be an advantage, but we would also welcome experience in child care law and housing law.

The successful candidate can expect to contribute to The Law Society's work on numerous projects, currently including the implementation of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, the Crown Prosecution Service, the Government's Child Care Law Review and some parts of the Civil Justice Review.

He or she will be able to communicate effectively with M.P.s, senior government officials, the media, the profession and the public.

Depending on experience an appointment will be made within the above salary range, not necessarily at the minimum. Excellent conditions of service include 23 days annual leave, a contributory Superannuation Scheme, interest free season ticket loan and subsidised Staff Luncheon Room.

Write for the application form and job description to the Personnel and Training Manager, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL. Closing date 19th April 1985.



COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

We wish to recruit two or more solicitors with substantial experience, preferably gained in the City, to assist at a senior level in this busy and expanding department.

The work undertaken in the department and the clientele are wide-ranging in character and the opportunity will exist for the successful applicants to broaden their experience in a variety of company and commercial fields as well as to pursue any preferred specialities. This will include banking and finance for which experience will be a distinct advantage.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

We require solicitors with up to two years general commercial litigation experience preferably gained in the City, to undertake a wide range of commercial work with particular emphasis on insurance and reinsurance litigation, for which some experience would be an advantage.

Applications should have a good academic record. Salary will be competitive and work environment attractive. All applications with full CV should be sent to:-

Mr G S Fletcher
Personnel Manager

PAISNER & CO

Bouvens House,
154 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2DQ

GLC

Working for London

Head of Compulsory Purchase & Road Orders Section

A solicitor, barrister or legal executive with at least 7 years' professional experience is sought to manage the section dealing with the compulsory purchase of land and road orders by the Council and other organisations, co-ordinating and preparing the Council's case, and ensuring its interests are protected and adequately represented at all times. Liaison with Members, other internal departments, government, council and others is an essential part of the work, demanding the skills of an effective and persuasive negotiator, with strong analytical and problem-solving capabilities.

Wide experience in local government law is essential, with sound drafting abilities and the capacity to acquire readily a good knowledge of compulsory purchase procedures and public enquiry work, if not already experienced in this area. This should be coupled with the ability to work with meticulous accuracy under pressure and deal with a heavy personal workload.

Salary: £16,629 - £18,489 inclusive.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

For an application form, to be returned by 19th April 1985, write to: GLC Director-General's Department, Ref: 5916, Room 303, The County Hall, SE1 7PB or telephone 01-633 1527.

This post is suitable for job sharing

NCB

Staff Manager, Regional Services,
National Coal Board, Eastwood Hall,
Eastwood, Notts. NG16 3EB.

YOUNG SOLICITOR

Company/Commercial

We are seeking a recently qualified solicitor of the highest ability who wishes to work as part of a strongly motivated team.

The work of the department is varied and challenging; much of it with an international element. The successful candidate will be given the opportunity to develop a specialisation.

Please write in the first instance to:

Nicholas Baker
Administration Partner
Frederic Cholmeley
28, Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3HH

FREDE CHOLMELEY

THE COLLEGE OF LAW LECTURER IN LAW

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The Salary will be within the scale £10,770 - £16,698 p.a. (which includes a Guildford allowance of £530) with the entry point depending on qualifications and experience. Normal annual increments are £660.

Apply with full personal, professional and academic details to:

L. R. H. Griffiths, The College of Law,
Brabourne Manor, St. Catherine's, Guildford, Surrey GU3 1HA
from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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Call Court Associates 01 583 0055

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Please reply in writing to:
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17, DORSET SQUARE,
LONDON, NW1 6QB
Attention: Mr. D. A. Collins

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Regional Directors £29,210 (under review)

The Law Society and Lord Chancellor's Department, following the recommendation of consultants who undertook a complete review of Legal Aid Administration have established a new administrative structure involving the creation of a management team.

In addition to the present management, legal, personnel and financial functions, the team will include two new posts of Regional Director, each of whom will be responsible for managing the administration of Legal Aid in seven or eight of the existing Areas.

The posts have a strong management content and each will be concerned with a total of some 500 staff working within tight financial limits and handling an increasing volume of work.

Candidates should be solicitors who have extensive experience of work on Legal Aid Committees able to demonstrate the will and ability to guide and control the work of Legal Aid in the Areas for which they become responsible.

The conditions of service include a contributory superannuation scheme with dependants provision, regular increments and 23 working days leave (under review).

Both posts are London based and the above salary includes £1,359 per annum London weighting. Removal expenses are not payable on first appointment and applicants from outside London are therefore asked to confirm that they foresee no problem in moving to within commuting distance of the office.

Apply for job description and application form to be returned not later than Friday, 26th April, 1985, to: Personnel Manager, Legal Aid, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1PL.



Corporate Finance - Documentation

First Interstate Limited, the merchant banking subsidiary of First Interstate Bancorp., is currently seeking a professional with experience in the preparation and negotiation of capital markets documentation to join its Corporate Finance Group.

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The position offers a competitive compensation package, which will include all usual banking fringe benefits, and an excellent prospect for further development within a merchant banking environment.

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Candidates will be technically bright and are likely to, but will not necessarily, have a law degree.

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Please write in confidence, a one page summary of why we should meet, attaching a full CV complete with salary details to Peter Williamson, (Reference 41) at Spicer and Pegler Associates, Executive Selection, St Mary Axe House, London EC3A 8BJ.



Spicer and Pegler Associates

Management Services

LEGAL INFORMATION

Freshfields seeks to recruit a solicitor or barrister to run the firm's information service. The appointment involves compiling and indexing material on a wide range of matters, together with the editing of both the firm's in-house publication and also the Company Department's News Sheet. In addition the successful candidate may well be required to produce minutes and information bulletins for specialist teams within the office.

The work will involve close liaison with fee-earners, and therefore candidates will need to be aware of the current work and requirements of the departments. There is, too, a co-

ordinating function to be performed with other information assistants within the firm.

Candidates preferably should have had some practical experience of commercial law, and be familiar with modern legal office procedures. The information system is partially computerised and the candidate will be involved in the further computerisation of the system.

Salary and benefits, which will take into account age and experience, will be attractive.

Please write, enclosing a C.V. to David Rance, Freshfields, Grindall House, 25 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7LH.

FRESHFIELDS

THE LAW SOCIETY LEGAL AID

Legal Aid Solicitor

£10,150-£18,371

Applications are invited from solicitors for a vacancy in the London (East) Legal Aid Office, Holborn, at a salary within the above range, depending on age and experience and not necessarily at the minimum.

The work requires a solicitor with a level headed approach to assessing the merits and likely benefits of prospective legal actions, and an eye for detail, who can work in a quick orderly way and exercise sound judgment. A broad experience of both civil and criminal law is required.

The terms of service include a contributory superannuation scheme with dependants provision, regular increments and four weeks annual leave. Removal expenses are not payable on first appointment and applicants from outside the area are therefore asked to confirm that they envisage no problem in moving to within commuting distance of the office.

Applicants who would like additional information are invited to telephone the Personnel Manager, Legal Aid on 01-242 1222.

Write in confidence by April 12th giving full details of education, experience, employment, present salary and date available to: Personnel Manager, Legal Aid, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1PL.



YOUNG LAWYERS

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£12-20,000

Our client, an expanding and very commercial practice, with private and PLC clients, seeks 2 further solicitors principally to handle a wide range of good quality commercial property work.

The practice, which is young and dynamic has recently moved into new, purpose built offices in NW3 with the latest high technology backup.

The right applicants will be qualified between 6 months and 3 years and have a London or large leading provincial practice background. Equity shares will be offered within the next 2 years.

Applications for this post quoting Ref: PW/C.132 should be made to Renter Simkin Limited, 26-28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE. Telephone: 01-405 6852. Fax: 01-405 3677. Telex: 884064.

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Petroleum Negotiations Representative

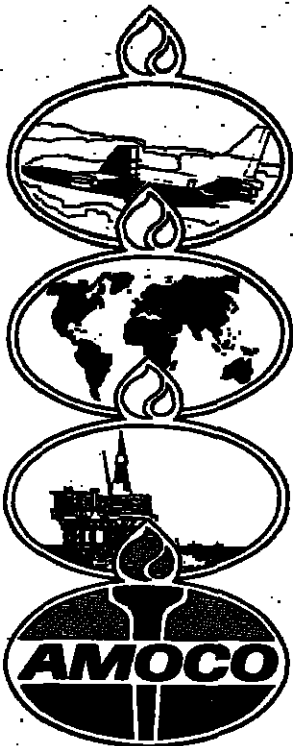
The Negotiations Department of Amoco Europe and West Africa, Inc (a subsidiary of Standard Oil Company, Indiana) is responsible for co-ordinating the activities of Amoco's negotiations with Governments and other companies in connection with the acquisition, maintenance and disposal of oil and gas exploration and production rights in Europe and West Africa.

We are seeking to expand our negotiations staff by the recruitment of an additional negotiator. The ideal candidate would be a young lawyer, experienced in the field of oil and gas exploration, preferably with a working knowledge of French. Prior negotiating experience is not essential but candidates should have an interest in developing a career in negotiations.

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Please write with full details to Mrs. L. T. Nee, Employee Relations Amoco Europe & West Africa Inc, Amoco House, 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AU.



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RECRUITMENT

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The appointment involves substantial High Court matters particularly those connected with insolvency, employment law and building arbitrations.

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John Hamilton,
51-53 High Street,
GUILDFORD,
Surrey GU1 3DY
Telephone (0483) 574814

Legal Personnel Consultants

John Hamilton Associates



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Linklaters & Paines, a major City law firm, have an opportunity at their Brussels office for a recently qualified solicitor to undertake a wide variety of work on corporate, commercial and international matters. The successful applicant will have between one and three years relevant post admission experience and be able to demonstrate qualities of energy, enthusiasm, intelligence and commitment. Reasonable fluency in French would be an advantage.

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Linklaters & Paines,
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The European subsidiary of a major US group seeks a Solicitor qualified in English Law for its Shipping Dept. He or she should have gained at least 3 years experience in this branch, loan documentation, copying and post-closing procedures and workout situations in a banking environment or law firm specialising in maritime work.

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Baker & McKenzie, Hong Kong, have vacancies in each of the following areas of law:

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LITIGATION

Their expanding department, which handles piracy and other intellectual property litigation matters, requires lawyers who will have had between one and two years' experience in specialised intellectual property practice in the UK, and will be able to handle a heavy case load. They will be expected to have an excellent grasp of procedure and a sound understanding of all aspects of intellectual property law.

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Assistant Solicitor

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c£15,000+Car

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The opportunity to join this small, but key, Department, which works as a highly-integrated team, will appeal to a confident, personable young man or woman with impeccable professional credentials and the potential to rise into senior management. The Department is involved in a wide variety of activities including Corporate Law, Contracts and Licensing, Consumer Legislation and Intellectual Property.

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Achievement in this demanding role will be well rewarded, with excellent prospects for career progression.

Please write for an application form and further details to: Geraldine Cable, British-American Tobacco Company Limited, Westminster House, 7 Millbank, London SW1P 3JE. Alternatively telephone 01-222 2610 and listen for details.



Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

- 8.00 *Cerebus* All.
8.50 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Salina Scott. Weather at 8.55, 9.25, 9.55 and 10.15 regional news, weather and travel at 8.57, 9.27, 9.57 and 10.27. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.50; sport at 7.20, 7.45 and 8.20; Billy Bragg reviews the morning papers at 8.37. Plus, gardening editor, recipes; and fashion trends in April. Guest is Fiona Fullerton.
- 9.20 *Battle of the Planets*. Animated science fiction series. 9.40 *The Monkees* (r). 10.05 *Why Don't You...?* From Haggis Castle, Glasgow. 10.30 *Play School*, presented by Stuart Morgan. 10.50 *Cartoon Double* 28.
- 11.05 *Bonanza*. Western adventures. This morning, Hoss becomes a murder suspect (r). 11.50 *Wildlife on One*. David Attenborough with the story of the African plant that flowers in the flames (r) (CeeFax). 12.15 *The Gospel According to St John Part 2*.
- 12.30 *News After Noon* with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Ian McKeish. 12.57 *Regional News* (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles.
- 1.00 *Pebble Mill at One*. Howard Frank visits Weston Park in Shropshire; and Penelope Leach answers viewers' questions on raising children. 1.45 *Pigeon Street* (r). 2.00 *Blizzard* the Wizard Woodwork. Carpenter Richard Blizzard makes a ruff cut cupboard. 2.25 *Earth* (1955) starring Jim Morrow and Faith Domergue. Science fiction adventure about the kidnapping of the world's most brilliant scientists by raiders from another planet. Directed by Joseph Newman. 3.55 *Caterpillar Trail*. A new series presented by Stuart Morgan. 4.10 *Dastardly and Muttley* (r). 4.15 *Heathcliff and Madmaduke*. 4.35 *The Kids of Degrassi Street*. A new series of cartoons involving the children who live on a Toronto thoroughfare.
- 5.00 *John Craven's Newsround*. 5.10 *Who, Sir? Me, Sir?* Episode four (CeeFax). 5.35 *Dr Kildare*. Part six of the drama serial about patients relying on a kidney machine.
- 6.00 *News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Wint*.
- 6.30 *London Plus*.
- 7.00 *EastEnders*. Naima confesses that her arranged marriage is not working out (CeeFax).
- 7.30 *Blankety Blank*. Les Dawson's guests are Sandra Dickinson, Sue Francis, Cherry Gillespie, Paul Shane, Frank Thornton and Liane Webb.
- 8.00 *The Day the Universe Changed*. Part three of James Burke's series covers the period when it was discovered that the earth was not flat. (CeeFax).
- 8.50 *Points of View*.
- 9.03 *A Party Political Broadcast* on behalf of the Labour Party.
- 9.10 *News with John Humphrys*.
- 9.35 *Miami Vice*. Crockett and Tubbs reluctantly work on the investigation of a woman who has been crooked and a dealer.
- 10.25 *Film 85*. Barry Norman comments on, among others, *Not Quite Jerusalem*, *Terror in the Aisles* and *Johnny Dangers*.
- 10.55 *Loose Ends*. General knowledge quiz.
- 11.25 *The 20th Century Remembered*. Donald McCormick talks to Barbara Castle about her life and political career. (See Choice).
- 11.55 *The Gospel According to St John*. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.15.
- 12.10 *Weather*.

TV-am

- 6.15 *Good Morning Britain* presented by Nick Owen and Jayne Irving. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.15, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 8.55 and 9.00; Popeye cartoon. 7.25 pop video at 7.55; *Jani* Brown's postcard at 8.15; cooking at 8.40; Roland Rat at 9.00. The guests are Rita Lamb and Murray Head.

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 *Thames news headlines* followed by *Seaside Street* where the Muppets make learning fun. 10.25 *BMX Band*. Five more competitors strive for a place in Saturday's final of the BMX Freestyle Championships.
- 10.50 *Bubancup* Skaters.
- 11.00 *Animal Friends*. The story of a friendship between a kitten and a dog. 11.10 *Fabulous Funnies*. Cartoons. 11.30 *About Britain*. What life was like and still is, in parts of the Far North.
- 12.00 *Cockleshell Bay*. Seaside adventures of the Cockle twins (r). 12.10 *Rainbow*. Learning with puppets (r). 12.30 *The Silents*. Drama serial about an Australian family during the Second World War.
- 1.00 *News at One and weather* 1.20 *Thames news* 1.30 *Strangers*. The final episode of the series and Bulman finds himself in danger when he tries to arrest a crook during his wedding (V). 2.30 *Daytime*. Sarah Kennedy chairs another discussion on a matter of topical importance. 3.00 *Gambit* Fast moving quiz game for married couples, presented by Tom O'Connor. 3.25 *Thames news headlines*. 3.30 *The Young Doctors*. Medical drama series.
- 4.00 *Cockleshell Bay*. A repeat of the programme shown on one. 4.15 *Batfink* news. Father Time Bomb. 4.20 *Alice in Wonderland*. Part two of a five-episode adaptation of Lewis Carroll's classic. 4.45 *CBTV* (Oracles). 4.45 *CBTV* announces the Marmalade Atkins look-alike winner.
- 5.15 *Blockbusters*. General knowledge quiz game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holmes.
- 5.45 *News 6.00 Thames news*.
- 6.25 *Reporting London* includes a report by Jackie Sprinkle on the growing interest in witchcraft and the occult.
- 7.00 *Emmerdale Farm*. Alison begins to suspect that Jackie is deceiving her.
- 7.30 *Bushman's Holiday*. Team quiz game presented by Julian Pettifer (Oracles).
- 8.00 *Up the Elephant and Round the Castle*. Comedy series starring Jim Davidson. This week a reluctant competitor in the Good Neighbour Week competition (r).
- 8.30 *Chance in a Million*. Tom Chance is the cause of his friend Alison's cousin's misfortune. This week he arrives in London for a Cliff Richard concert (first shown on C4).
- 9.00 *A Party Political Broadcast* on behalf of the Labour Party.
- 9.10 *Television*. This week's series on the history of television examines the development of documentaries (Oracles).
- 10.10 *News followed by Thames news headlines*.
- 10.40 *Fired Tunes*. Lakeron - A Family at War is a report by Martin Short about how the Beirut family he married into has survived ten years of war. Insult to injury investigates the level of racism-motivated attacks on black and black families living in London's East End.
- 11.40 *The Master*. Martial arts adventures starring Les Van Cleef.
- 12.35 *The Seven Deadly Sins*. Students discuss Lust.
- 12.45 *Closedown*.

BBC 2

- 8.30 *Open University: Cheddar*. Mapping the Mendip Anticline. 8.55 *Cogs in the Wheel* Ends at 9.20.
- 9.00 *CeeFax*.
- 9.15 *Film: Having a Wonderful Time* (1936) starring Ginger Rogers, Douglas Fairbanks Jr and Lucille Ball. Romantic comedy set in a summer camp. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock.
- 9.25 *News summary with subtitles*. Weather.
- 9.30 *Jet Trail*. Part two of the three-part series on the history of jet flight focuses on the post war efforts of the Bristol Aircraft Company designers - Sir Roy Fedden, Sir Archibald Russell and Sir Stanley Hooker. The narrator is Peter Brown (first shown on BBC West).
- 6.00 *The High Chaparral*. Billy Blue's Uncle returns after an absence of 15 years. Starring Lee Remick and Robert Fuller. 6.30 *Thames news headlines*.
- 6.50 *Off the Record*. Charlie Nicholas, Arsenal's Scottish international discusses his record collection with Steve Blackburn.
- 7.00 *Whistle Test*. David Hepworth and Mark Ellen introduce live music from Timezone - made up of John Lydon and Afrika Bambaataa - and The Sisters of Mercy. Frankie Goes to Hollywood talk about their plans and the 'Hindigut' slot returns to 1978 with John Fox, the original lead singer with Ultravox.
- 8.00 *Top Gear*. William Woollard visits Ford's top secret proving ground in Lincolnshire to see the new Granada put through its paces; while Sue Baker compares the Granada with its rivals, the Renault 25, the Volvo 740 and the Rover 2300. There is also an item on car security and a road test of the new Rover 216.
- 8.30 *Entertainment USA 2*. Jonathan King in Nashville where among those he meets is Chubby Checker.
- 9.00 *A Party Political Broadcast* on behalf of the Labour Party.
- 9.10 *Put Black 35*. The first semi-final pits Dennis Taylor of Northern Ireland against Welshman, Doug Mountjoy, introduced by David Lee.
- 9.55 *African Calvary*. Statesman and religious leaders give their views on what must be done to end the suffering of the starving millions of Africa (see Choice).
- 10.30 *Newsnight*. The latest national and international news including extended coverage of one of the leading stories of the day.
- 11.15 *Weather*.
- 11.20 *Animation Now*. The Yugoslav-made *Skyscraper*, which deals with the pressures of high-rise living.
- 11.30 *Open University: The Effective Manager*. Crisis or Control? 11.55 *Report: The Mindful Way* Ends at 12.25.
- 12.00 *Closedown*.

CHANNEL 4

- 2.30 *The Human Jungle: Time Check* Psychiatrist Dr John Corder (Herbert Lom) treats a young burglar (Melvin Hayes) who is suffering from a terrifying ordeal when he was a child.
- 3.25 *Film: Idle Roomers* (1944) starring the Three Stooges as three hotel bell boys who reduce the guests to nervous wrecks. Directed by Del Lord.
- 3.45 *Years Ahead*. Magazine programme for the older viewer, presented by Robert Douglas. Frances Perry tours her garden; there is a report on a neighbourhood watch scheme against crime; archive film of Black Bottom dog dancing and the Land Rover Walk; and Ted Goodfriend talks about his return to Learning course at the Middlesex Polytechnic.
- 4.30 *Hey Good Looking!* Deyan Sudja examines the arguments about which architectural styles should replace modernism.
- 4.45 *Dangerous Journey*. Part three of a modern adaptation of John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*.
- 5.00 *Bewitched*. Aunt Clara comes to baby-sit and amuses young Tabitha with a little magic - until the lights go out. Clara believes she is to blame and summons help from an old warlock friend.
- 5.30 *Low Tech*. Part three and Rick Ball explains how to make an Italian-designed leather armchair from the front seat of an Alfa Romeo.
- 6.00 *The Avengers*. Steed and Mrs Peel investigate the death of a man whose body is found in a park. Their snooping leads them to a rather mysterious dancing school which may be a front for foreign agents.
- 7.00 *Channel Four News*.
- 7.50 *Comment*. With his views on a matter of topical importance is channel's author and cartoonist John Rees.
- 8.00 *Brookside*. It's a Christmas time for the Grant's and the party seems to be going too well in Sheila's eyes.
- 8.30 *The Wine Programme*. Part three of Janice Robinson's informative series examines the diverse range varieties used to make wine.
- 9.00 *Film: Inside Moves* (1980) starring John Savage as a failed suicide who is befriended by a motley group of handicapped people who congregate in Max's Bar. Directed by Richard Donner.
- 11.05 *Eastern Eye* includes an interview with actor-director Jamil Dehlavi; a report on the circumstances surrounding the vote of no confidence passed on Bradford's Drummond Middle School's headmaster; talks to the Sri Lankan Veera by Arunthathi Srikanta Rajah; and on Raj Ganeshi's visit to the Punjab as prime minister.
- 12.00 *Closedown*.

CHOICE

Only at the end of tonight's programme does the rebel in Mrs Castle begin to reveal itself, with her walking into the lobby of the Commons to vote against official Labour policy to accept an American loan that was pegged to making sterling convertible.

● "If the hungry could eat words," says an ironic line of commentary in *AFRICAN CALVARY* (BBC 2, 9.55pm). Mohamed Amin's film about the famine in that continent, "Africa would recover." Yet, it was Michael Buerk's words on BBC TV, accompanying Mr Amin's picture, that brought the Ethiopian horror to the attention of the world and set the relief operation in motion. And it would be unwise to underestimate the impact of some other words heard tonight, for example, Presidents Kaunda and Nyerere, Mrs Thatcher, the Pope and gentlest polemicist of them all - Mother Teresa ("In Africa, the passion of Christ is being redeemed in every man, woman and child"). Mr Buerk prefaces *African Calvary* with the comment that it is a personal view by Mr Amin. But, surely, every foot of film already exposed by Mr Amin in the Horn of Africa has been a highly personal statement about the human tragedy there. What does distinguish tonight's film from the rest of his reports is that pictures, words and music (heartrending use is made of the Faure Requiem) have been synthesized powerfully, and the word must be used, poetically.

Peter Daville

Radio 4

- On long wave, 1450 VHF stereo.
- 5.55 *Shipping*. 6.00 *News Briefing*. 6.15 *9.00 News*. 6.25 *Prayer for the day*. 6.30 *Today*, including 6.30, 7.20, 8.30 *News*. 6.45 *Business News*. 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.00 *World*. 7.35, 8.25 *Spot*. 7.45 *News*. 8.00 *Business News*. 8.55 *Weather*. 9.00 *Today*. 9.15 *9.00 News*. 9.25 *Prayer for the day*. 9.30 *Today*. 9.45 *9.00 News*. 9.55 *Weather*. 10.00 *Today*. 10.15 *9.00 News*. 10.25 *Prayer for the day*. 10.30 *Today*. 10.45 *9.00 News*. 10.55 *Weather*. 11.00 *Today*. 11.15 *9.00 News*. 11.25 *Prayer for the day*. 11.30 *Today*. 11.45 *9.00 News*. 11.55 *Weather*. 12.00 *Today*. 12.15 *9.00 News*. 12.25 *Prayer for the day*. 12.30 *Today*. 12.45 *9.00 News*. 12.55 *Weather*. 1.00 *Today*. 1.15 *9.00 News*. 1.25 *Prayer for the day*. 1.30 *Today*. 1.45 *9.00 News*. 1.55 *Weather*. 2.00 *Today*. 2.15 *9.00 News*. 2.25 *Prayer for the day*. 2.30 *Today*. 2.45 *9.00 News*. 2.55 *Weather*. 3.00 *Today*. 3.15 *9.00 News*. 3.25 *Prayer for the day*. 3.30 *Today*. 3.45 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Gallery pays £1m for 'free offer' Chirico painting

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The Tate Gallery announced yesterday that it was paying just over £1 million for a masterpiece by Giorgio de Chirico which it could have had for nothing if the government had co-operated.

"The Uncertainty of the Poet" painted in Paris in 1913, belonged to Sir Roland Penrose, the pioneering collector of 20th century art who introduced the British public to Surrealism through his writings and a series of seminal exhibitions. Sir Roland died last year and his heirs offered the work to the nation in lieu of tax with the wish that the painting should go to the Tate Gallery.

The offer was turned down. It bumped against the ceiling of £1 million worth of art which the Treasury is allowing to be accepted in lieu of taxes during 1985-86. Museums, galleries and heritage bodies have been campaigning to get the ceiling lifted, or abolished, since its announcement by Lord Gowrie last December.

Mr Alan Bowness, director of the Tate, yesterday described the de Chirico as the most important 20th century painting in private hands in Britain. It belongs to the small group of "etaphysical" works of 1912-15 which influenced powerfully the birth of Surrealism in the 1920s.

"Sir Ronald told me that he wanted it to come to the Tate," said Mr Bowness. "The offer in

lieu was made but there had been no response by January when the executors received an offer of \$3.5 million from America. They needed an answer on the 'in lieu' offer quickly and it was turned down."

The Tate has therefore negotiated a private treaty sale. A sale to a national museum can be made free of tax. The negotiated price reflects this, being slightly more than would be received by an open market sale at £3 million and the payment of capital taxes on that sum.

Nevertheless, it represents more than half the Tate purchase grant of £1,815,000 for 1985-86. "The refusal to take a picture of this importance in lieu of tax is only a matter of book-keeping," said Mr Bowness yesterday.

"The Treasury insists that the Arts Ministry budget must be docked. In France they have a similar system but no ceiling. Wonderful Braques, Picassos and Matisse are flooding into their museums."

The Gallery launched a public appeal yesterday to raise funds towards the cost of the painting. Collecting boxes were installed next to the picture and donations by post are being invited. The National Art Collections Fund has contributed £50,000.



£1m view: The Chirico on display at the Tate Gallery yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Beleaguered Nimeiry given £54m aid

Continued from page 1

emetics and President of the Students' Union at the national university.

The arrests, on Sunday afternoon and evening, were designed to undermine the general strike which government officials thought was to take place yesterday. In fact the organizing committee of professional unions had already postponed it to tomorrow to allow more unions and provincial workers to be involved.

Five lawyers prominent in

the advocates' association were seized by armed security police at a meeting in the city's Lawyers Club. Lawyers refused to allow their officers to be taken, but the five gave themselves up after the meeting.

The chairman of the Khartoum physicians, Dr Hussein Abu Sath, and another prominent committee member, Dr el-Sheikh Kuniash, were arrested at the hospital. Six other doctors are understood to have been detained.

Afterwards doctors on strike

since they began treating riot police victims on Thursday, withdrew even the voluntary casualty emergency system.

Dr Mohamed el-Amin el-Tom, the Professor of Mathematics, was arrested while jogging. His home was searched thoroughly by security men.

The Sudanese Socialist Union, the ruling party, is planning a counter-demonstration in support of the President today. A senior official said that the whole protest was falling apart.

Walker offers coal talks

Continued from page 1

"Management will make every endeavour to give as detailed assessment as practicable about the state of individual collieries, and the action that is proposed. However, this immediate post-strike strategy should not be regarded as strategy within the industry's normal joint procedures. These procedures will be fully resumed when the detailed assessments have been made."

The pit deputies' leaders put off the prospect of a strike ballot yesterday, after agreeing to seek an early meeting with the board.

On these "short-term" colliery assessments, which have led to the decision to close France's mine in Scotland and Bedwas in South Wales.

Nacods insists these shut-downs are contrary to their final agreement reached with the board last October, which lays down a "final appeal" to an independent arbiter.

Last night, after Mr Walker's statement, Mr Peter McNery, Nacods general secretary, said there appeared to be a move toward a Nacod agreement. He wanted to meet the board.

Today's events

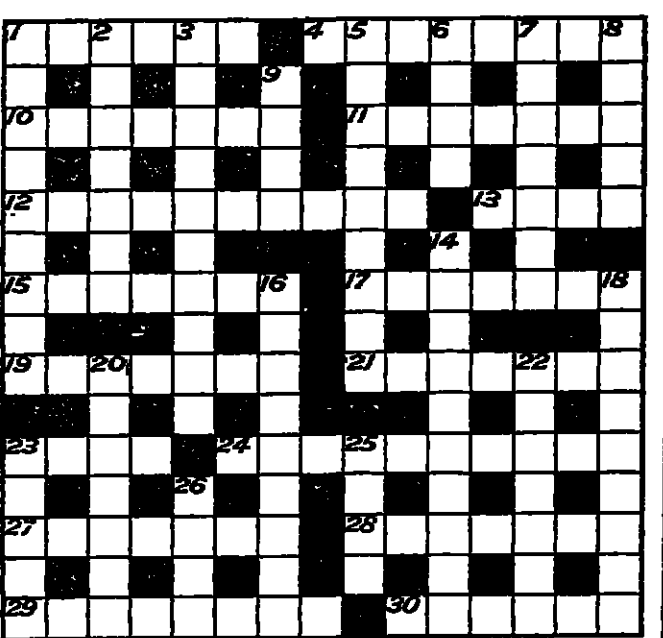
Royal engagements
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother opens the London City YMCA in Errol Street, Barbican, 3.30.
Princess Margaret attends the Television and Radio Industries Club's Luncheon at Grosvenor House for the presentations of Celebrity Awards, 12.30.
Princess Michael of Kent attends J District, Metropolitan Police, luncheon at Chigwell, 12.45.

New exhibition
Watercolours by J M W Turner: Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street, Oxford; Tues to Sat 10 to 4.

Exhibitions in progress

Paintings and Drawings by Pierre Bonnard: The Ferens Gallery, Queens Victoria Square, Hull; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 4.30, (ends Apr 21).
Portraits of Craftsmen by Adrian Ford: Allen Gallery, Church Street, Alden; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sat for lunch 12 to 1, closed Sun, (ends Apr 20).
Anatolian Encounters: photographs of a journey across the Turkish Plateau; Willis Museum, Old Town Hall, Market Place, Basingstoke; Tues to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4 and closed Sun and Mon, (ends Apr 20).

Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,701



- ACROSS**
- Capital doctor called in by services (6).
 - Numbers are important and noble (8).
 - Writer follows a high ball - a blower (7).
 - Onset of disease can cripple (7).
 - Scorn a cat treated as high (10).
 - Note that's legal tender abroad (4).
 - Dead men can be put to rights (7).
 - As a substitute this month, he had no aspirations (7).
 - Starred to fight and not even married (7).
 - Hard man and a worker (7).
 - A grass is dishonest (4).
 - Takes cut back by an Aberdeen, perhaps (10).
 - Measure hair in need of cutting (7).
 - Whodunnit? (7).
 - Putting up with no rattle anyway (5).
 - A salesman who got on his bike, we hear (6).
- DOWN**
- Extracts as much as possible from fish and drink (4,5).
 - Became in a storm. Frenchman lost - disaster! (4,2,4).
 - Part of Greater London or Newfoundland? (4,2,4).
 - Electing party feature a part of Asia (4,5).
 - Old Bob carries the Commandant's weapon (4).
 - Office, picking up bird without clothes (7).
 - Yank finds water-source in wood (5).
 - A convict turned up for the prison (7).
 - Latter half of Noel Coward is rewritten by another playwright (5,5).
 - Figure put on about a month past (9).
 - Round number turned up, intended to set off (9).
 - Not particular, this man of rank... (7).
 - ...while this one's praiseworthy (7).
 - Begone! (7).
 - After a month's up, I finally get suit (5).
 - Food put tidily out of sight (4).
 - Famous Venetian painter used to do this (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,700

ACROSS: 1. CAPITAL DOCTOR CALLED IN BY SERVICES (6). 2. NUMBERS ARE IMPORTANT AND NOBLE (8). 3. WRITER FOLLOWS A HIGH BALL - A BLOWER (7). 4. ONSET OF DISEASE CAN CRIPPLE (7). 5. SCORN A CAT TREATED AS HIGH (10). 6. NOTE THAT'S LEGAL TENDER ABROAD (4). 7. DEAD MEN CAN BE PUT TO RIGHTS (7). 8. AS A SUBSTITUTE THIS MONTH, HE HAD NO ASPIRATIONS (7). 9. STARRED TO FIGHT AND NOT EVEN MARRIED (7). 10. HARD MAN AND A WORKER (7). 11. A GRASS IS DISHONEST (4). 12. TAKES CUT BACK BY AN ABERDEEN, PERHAPS (10). 13. MEASURE HAIR IN NEED OF CUTTING (7). 14. WHODUNNIT? (7). 15. PUTTING UP WITH NO RATTLE ANYWAY (5). 16. A SALESMAN WHO GOT ON HIS BIKE, WE HEAR (6).

Flowerpieces: screenprints by Derrick Greaves: Havant Museum, East Street, Havant; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun and Mon closed, (ends Apr 20).

The Wasteland: A portfolio of photographs by Ron McCormick: Andover Museum, Church Close, Andover; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 and closed Sun and Mon, (ends Apr 20).
The First Americans: The Art of the North American Indian, a John Judkyn memorial exhibition; John House Museum, Quay Road, Christchurch Dorset; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 and closed Sun, (ends Apr 20).
Architecture of Bakur: Fabled Capital of the Caspian; Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, W1; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 1 and closed Sun (ends Apr 17).
Paintings by Dick Romy: Gallery 10, 10 Grosvenor Street, W1; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 1 and closed Sun (ends Apr 17).

Last chance to see

The Thomas Littleton Green collection of Tudor and Stuart Music. Lecture Room, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 3 and closed Sun (ends Apr 2).

Music

Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta: Cricklade Theatre, Andover, 7.30.
Concert by the Romsey Singers, Romsey Abbey, 8.

Telephone bills

British Telecom has changed its policy on reminder notices for overdue bills, and will now send only one reminder instead of two before disconnecting for late payment. BT says it has taken the step "in order to reduce operating costs and to benefit the majority of our customers who pay their bills promptly."

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia	1.75	1.75
Belgium	2.25	2.25
Canada	7.25	7.25
Denmark	1.34	1.34
France	6.55	6.55
Germany	3.36	3.36
Italy	1.36	1.36
Japan	167.00	167.00
Netherlands	2.20	2.20
Portugal	204.00	204.00
Spain	166.00	166.00
Sweden	11.36	11.36
Switzerland	2.20	2.20
USA	1.36	1.36
Yugoslavia	291.00	291.00

Prices for small denomination bank notes only, as quoted by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The FT index closed down 0.5 at 363.8

Times world-wide

News in London is 7 am in New York; 4 am in San Francisco; 9 pm in Tokyo; 11 pm in Canberra; 2 pm in Johannesburg; 4 pm in United Arab Emirates; 3 pm in Karachi; 1 pm in Nigeria; 5 pm in Moscow; 8 pm in Hong Kong.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending March 28 - 1985

1. Coronation Street (Wed, Granada, 19.00).
2. Coronation Street (Mon, Granada, 19.00).
3. Denney and Macdonald, LWT, 15.30.
4. Cover Her Face (Anglia, 15.30).
5. Crossroads (Thu, Central, 14.35).
6. Crossroads (Fri, Central, 14.35).
7. This is Your Life (Thames, 12.05).
8. Emmerdale Farm (Thu, Yorkshire, 13.00).
9. Emmerdale Farm (Fri, Yorkshire, 13.00).
10. Wish You Were Here (Thames, 13.05).

BBC 1
1. The Two Ronnies, 19.00.
2. Last of the Summer Wine, 19.15.
3. The Saturday Night Takeaway, 19.15.
4. The Laughing Gnome, 14.45.
5. One By One, 14.50.
6. The Saturday Night Takeaway, 19.15.
7. News O'Clock News (Wed), 14.55.
8. Any Way the Wind Blows, 13.55.
9. Wogan (Fri), 13.00.
10. Juliet Bravo, 13.05.

BBC 2
1. The Young Ones, 5.30.
2. The National Book (Thu 22.14), 5.55.
3. The National Book (Fri 22.14), 5.55.
4. The National Book (Sat 22.14), 5.55.
5. The National Book (Sun 22.14), 5.55.
6. The National Book (Mon 22.14), 5.55.
7. The National Book (Tue 22.14), 5.55.
8. The National Book (Wed 22.14), 5.55.
9. The National Book (Thu 22.14), 5.55.
10. The National Book (Fri 22.14), 5.55.

Channel 4
1. Brookside (Tue), 8.40.
2. Brookside (Wed), 8.40.
3. Brookside (Thu), 8.40.
4. Brookside (Fri), 8.40.
5. Brookside (Sat), 8.40.
6. Brookside (Sun), 8.40.
7. Brookside (Mon), 8.40.
8. Brookside (Tue), 8.40.
9. Brookside (Wed), 8.40.
10. Brookside (Thu), 8.40.

Breakfast television: The average weekly figures for audience figures in the top ten programmes in the week ending March 24 (10.17 to 2.15, Sat 2.15 to 5.30, Sun 7.30 to 1.00).
BBC1 Breakfast News, Mon to Fri 7.17 (7.7).
BBC2 Breakfast News, Mon to Fri 7.17 (7.7).
BBC3 Breakfast News, Mon to Fri 7.17 (7.7).
BBC4 Breakfast News, Mon to Fri 7.17 (7.7).
BBC5 Breakfast News, Mon to Fri 7.17 (7.7).

Anniversaries

Births: Hans Christian Andersen, Odense, Denmark, 1805; William Holman Hunt, Pre-Raphaelite, London, 1837; Emily Zola, Paris, 1840.
Deaths: Sir James Clark Ross, Polar explorer, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, 1842; Richard Cobden, politician, London, 1865.

The papers

The Daily Mirror commenting on the threat of disruption in the postal service says in an editorial today: "If there is one lesson the miners' strike ought to have taught other workers, it is that by striking against Mrs Thatcher they are playing into her hands."

The teachers' stoppage isn't hurting the Government, it is hurting the children and their parents. Equally, a strike by postmen will not only damage industry, especially mail order firms, it will also upset millions of voters.

It is a strike that they cannot win because government and business nowadays have so many alternative forms of communication that it would be tiresome rather than crippling. It would also encourage those who want to remove the Post Office's monopoly of letter post and even privatize it.

Tough new line on football hooligans

Continued from page 1

ship cards to identify fans who could be withdrawn from those convicted of offences.

The six-point plan of action agreed by the two bodies consists of:

- The installation of more effective perimeter fences around pitches.
- The accelerated introduction of closed circuit television to identify trouble-makers and provide evidence to police.
- The introduction of membership cards.
- More ticket-only matches when trouble is anticipated.
- More family enclosures at grounds.
- A review of the FA's rule 31 which governs the requirement on clubs to take precautions and a possible toughening of sanctions against clubs where trouble occurs.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, who attended the meeting said: "The tone throughout was friendly and we left with a common determination to work together to deal with what the chairman of the FA described as the scourge of soccer violence."

"The Prime Minister made it clear she is looking to the football authorities to take a number of firm steps to deal with the problem, and the extent to which they are ready to deliver would govern the extent to which the Government has to intervene."

Mr Jenkin added that the football authorities had agreed that clubs need to deal effectively with players who misbehave on the field.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, said the ban on alcohol at football grounds would apply only to clubs which he designated, would extend to trains and coaches taking fans to matches, and would make anyone who took drink into a ground guilty of a criminal offence.

He said: "The key to this is designation of grounds, and we made it clear that, whereas in Scotland the Secretary of State has designated all rugby and football grounds, it does not follow that we will do the same in England and Wales. The grounds designated will depend on the assessment of the problem."

Letter from Moscow

Lives of luxury in the land of Marx

Anatoly Karpov, the chess star, has a car telephone in his chauffeur-driven limousine.

All members of the elite in the sporting world, the arts, and above all in the Kremlin bureaucracy enjoy carefully-graded privileges to which the ordinary Soviet worker can never hope to aspire. Karpov's car telephone puts him in the superstar bracket, but even middle-ranking officials and celebrities can expect to get a Moscow flat larger than the usual cramped allocation of five or six square metres per person (the official figure is nine metres minimum), a place at the head of the long waiting list for a car, as well as access to top health care and to the best schools and colleges.

They also get a government-provided country home, or dacha. All Russians have a right to a dacha in the beautiful countryside around Moscow, but the definition of a dacha can range from a dilapidated garden shed for the lower orders to a magnificent mansion screened by discreet birch trees and security fences for the cultural and political elite.

Karpov, who is judged to have earned his privileged status by conquering the world of chess, is building an £80,000 dacha outside the city, and has an Audi 100 for his personal use as well as his official car. One prominent musician recently acquired a palatial country house which formerly belonged to a KGB general and which, like other elite dachas, is set in a closed area rarely penetrated by either foreigners or ordinary Russians.

The extraordinary aspect of all this to a Western mind is that working class Muscovites fighting their way on to cramped buses or standing in long queues in the snow for scarce foodstuffs do not seem to resent this hidden privilege in the least. They are aware that those who govern them, from the President downwards, have access to special shops and even Western goods.

The official Marxist-Leninist ideology, hammered home every day in the press and media, professes egalitarianism and social justice. Yet most Russians seem to accept fatalistically that abuse of power and humiliation by officialdom are inevitable, possibly because this has been so since Tsarist times.

The Tsar's ministers used to drive their carriages at speed down the middle of the city's avenues, scattering the *hoi polloi* to right and left, much as today's Kremlin Zils thunder down the middle lane pushing mere mortals to either side.

Although there is no overt resentment of official privilege, condemnation of the abuse of such privilege does occasionally surface in the Soviet press and at party meetings. The late Yuri Andropov's stern drive against official abuses won him widespread popular approval, and the late Konstantin Chernenko continued to attack corruption, noting that it caused "profound anger" among the masses.

One female lathe operator from Rostov-on-Don recently wrote to *Komsomolskaya Pravda* to complain that her monthly wage of 200 roubles (£200) had little purchasing power.

"I understand that our society cannot yet afford for everyone to dress well and fashionably," she wrote. "But the point is that those who deserve them should receive the most benefits, and by that I mean the workers."

There is little sign, however, of privilege being reduced - if anything the reverse. When, at the local Soviet elections, officials and their well-dressed wives turned up to vote in chauffeur-driven Chaikas, there was not a murmur of protest from the proletariat trudging through the ice and snow to the ballot box.

The newest development, which again has aroused some public protest but is likely to go ahead anyway with full Kremlin approval, is the establishment of a series of luxury clothing stores for those with spare roubles, regardless of rank or status.

The new shops are to be for those who find the ordinary Soviet stores too drab. It seems doubtful whether Lenin or Marx would have approved.

Richard Owen

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Roads

London and the South-East: Lee Green, a water main is being laid along the A20 Eltham Road and Lee High Road; single lane traffic in each direction. A new relief road has been opened near the A115 Ilford High Road; drivers should use extra care. Hertfordshire: A deflection survey may delay southbound traffic along the A41 between Tring and Watlington.

Wales and West: A31: Roadworks between Ringwood and Wimborne at Tricketts Cross, Dorset; diversion likely to cause delays. A46: Resurfacing along Tunnel Hill between Cheltenham and Northleach to the east of Andoversford, Gloucestershire; delays in both directions. A46/A4171: major roadworks at Stroud, single lane traffic controlled by temporary traffic lights.

Midlands: M6: construction work connected with the M42 East of Birmingham city centre has left three very narrow lanes between junctions 4 and 5 in both directions. M6: Various lane closures in both directions between junction 10A and 11 near the Hilton Park service station; Staffordshire. M5: lane closures in both directions between junction 4 (A38) and junction 5 (Strensall), Hereford and Worcester.

North: A58: Sewer work at junction of Southfield drive in Westborough, Bedfordshire. A65: Roadworks at Shillbottle Bridge, SW of Alnwick, Northumberland. A193: Repair works at Byker Bridge, Newcastle; lane restrictions for bridge repairs.

Scotland: A9: Roadworks North of Aberdeen; Perthshire. A85: Resurfacing work west of Inverchute; eastbound lane and carriageway closures. A85: Roadworks at Riverside Drive, near Dundee Airport with temporary lights. Information supplied by the AA.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Interception of Communications Bill, progress in committee.
Lords (2.30): Insolvency Bill, report, second day.

Portfolio

Portfolio - how to play
Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.
Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.
If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money shared for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim
Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-63272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, or the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio dividend. No change can be accepted outside these hours.
You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stated times.
No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated times.
The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

Some Times Portfolio cards include minor mistakes in the interest on the reverse side. These cards are not invalid.
The adding of Rules 2 and 3 has been explained under earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game Rule is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

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Weather forecast

A frontal trough will move NE across most parts from the Atlantic.

6am to midnight

London, SE, central S: England, Midlands, clouded intervals; start cloudy later; wind W, backing SW, moderate; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).
East Anglia, E, NE England: Sunny intervals, cloudy later; wind W backing moderate, max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

SW England, Wales, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain and drizzle spreading from W, hill and coastal fog; wind S, moderate or fresh, max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

NW, Central N England, Lake District, SW Scotland: Bright start, becoming cloudy with rain later; wind backing SW, moderate; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).
Bordas, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Sunny intervals, showers, becoming cloudy with rain later; wind N, moderate becoming poor with extensive fog. SE Scotland, Shetland: Windy showers, drizzle or rain; wind N fresh or strong, becoming variable, light; max temp 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Most parts sunny intervals, showers in the N and W, dry elsewhere; cloud and rain spreading from W on Thursday, generally warm or rather warm.

SEA: PASSAGES S, North Sea, wind westerly strong or gale decreasing to moderate; rain, visibility good becoming moderate. Sea very rough becoming moderate. Gales of Dover, English Channel (E) wind southwest moderate backing southerly fresh or strong, rain at times. Visibility moderate becoming poor with extensive fog. Sea slight becoming moderate or rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea wind backing southerly strong or gale, rain at times. Visibility poor with extensive fog. Sea slight becoming very rough.

Sun rises: 6.34 am
Sun sets: 7.35 pm
Moon rises: 5.54 am
Moon sets: 3.23 pm
Full Moon: April 5.

Lighting-up time

London 8.4 pm to 6.2 am
Bristol 8.15 pm to 6.15 am
Edinburgh 8.20 pm to 6.20 am
Penzance 8.28 pm to 6.28 am

London

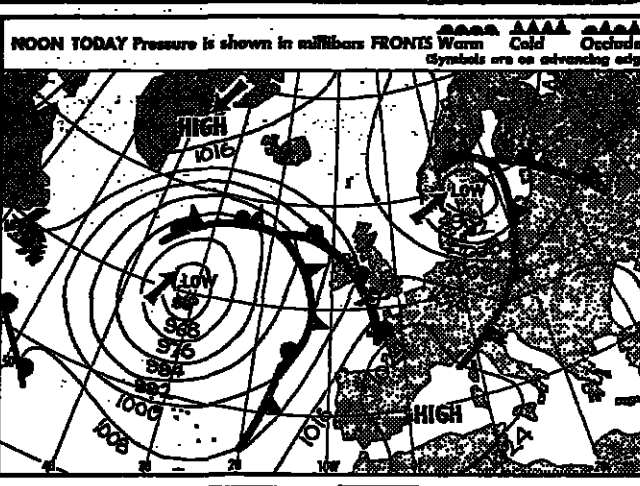
Yesterday: Temp: min 6 am to 8 pm, 18C (64F); max 6 pm to 8 pm, 20C (68F). Humidity: 6 pm, 64 per cent. Dew point: 17.1C (63F). Wind: 24 to 26 km/h, SE. Sea: men sea level, 8 pm, 100.15 m. Falling 1,000 mbar = 29.93 in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Sturston, Lincoln, 18C (64F); lowest day temp: Llandudno, 12C (54F). Highest night temp: Llandudno, 12C (54F); lowest night temp: Llandudno, 12C (54F).

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: The Times Information Service, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EX.



NOON TODAY			
Pressure	Temp	Wind	Cloud
1015	12	W	100
1010	10	W	100
1005	8	W	100
1000	6	W	